

## Bokassa verdict set for June 12

BANGUI (R) — A court in the Central African Republic has ended hearing testimony in the six-month trial of former dictator Jean-Bedel Bokassa and plans to deliver its verdict on June 12, legal sources said Saturday. The self-styled emperor, ousted in 1979 after 13 years of economic rule, is charged with a variety of crimes, including cannibalism and embezzlement of state funds. Dozens of witnesses testified, including the emperor's former cook who said he reluctantly served Bokassa human flesh which his master ate. The trial opened on Nov. 29 in the sleepy riverside capital and dragged on past several deadlines for its conclusion. Final witnesses were heard Friday. Prosecution and defense lawyers are to sum up in the first week of June and, after a week's recess, Bangui's criminal court will deliver a verdict on June 12. Bokassa returned home unexpectedly last October from unhappy exile in France. He was immediately detained. The trial is a re-hearing of charges for which Bokassa was sentenced to death in his absence in 1980. He could face the death penalty if convicted.

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## Egyptian court frees 29 conscripts

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's supreme state security court on Saturday ordered the release of 29 more police conscripts pending their trial on charges of rioting and damaging property last year. The court said a date for their trial would be fixed later. A total of 1,324 police conscripts were arrested after riots in February last year in which over 100 people were killed. The court has now released 918 of them pending trial. The riots, the worst security crisis to face Egypt since President Anwar Sadat was killed in October 1981, were triggered by rumours that the call-up for security police conscripts was being extended from three to four years.

## 30 Lebanese held in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN (R) — Police have arrested 30 Lebanese as part of a crackdown on illegal immigrants launched in the wake of an attempt to overthrow the government of Sierra Leone two months ago. Police sources said Saturday. They said the Lebanese were arrested Friday night during a police raid on three Freetown casinos. Since the March 23 attempt to unseat President Joseph Momoh, Sierra Leone has expressed concern over the entry and presence of illegal aliens in this West African nation. A number of Lebanese and Sierra Leoneans of Lebanese descent have been implicated by the government in the failed coup.

## Kuwaiti emir warns against superpower involvement in Gulf

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait's leader Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, warning against the implications of involving superpowers in the Gulf war, Saturday appealed to Iran anew to respond to peace efforts. "The sparks of the Gulf war are spreading to the Gulf's shores and waters and the perils and pains of the hostilities are no longer confined to those directly shouldering its responsibility, but have spread to superpowers and are threatening the freedom of international navigation," Sheikh Jaber said in a traditional nationwide address marking the last 10 days of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan.

## Zia heads for Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani President Mohammad Zia ul Haq left Saturday on a pilgrimage to Mecca, the official AFP news agency reported. General Zia has often made the Umra pilgrimage during Ramadan since he seized power in 1977 and launched an Islamisation campaign in the country. APP did not say how long he would stay in Saudi Arabia or if he would meet Saudi leaders.

## Shultz meets Lebanese Sunni leader

WASHINGTON (USIA) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz met on Friday with Sheikh Hassan Khalid, a leader of the Lebanese Sunni Muslim community, who is on a private visit to the United States. State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Mr. Shultz and Sheikh Khalid discussed the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East. The spokesman did not elaborate.

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## Government to go ahead with plan for voter identity cards

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The government is to go ahead with a plan to issue special voting cards to all eligible voters who registered their names at the various registration centres during a 14-day period this month.

The government's decision, which came despite some reservations by the public and potential parliamentary candidates that the special cards could be a stumbling block to broader voter participation in elections, was announced by the interior minister, Mr. Rajai Dajani, on Saturday.

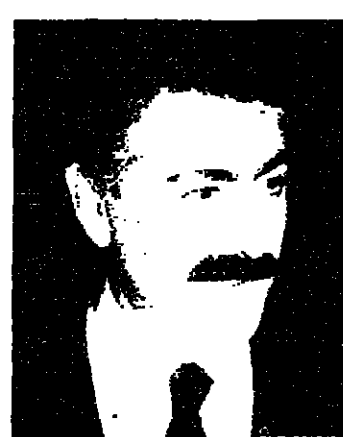
Mr. Dajani, in remarks carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said all registered voters could obtain the special cards free of cost provided they submit two photographs each. The minister said the cards would be issued by Civil Registration Department centres around the kingdom, as of July 1. The ministry has started displaying voter lists outside registration centres to allow citizens to "contest" any names that do not comply with the set regula-

tions. The contest period expires on June 6.

Petra said Mr. Dajani was speaking at a meeting of provincial governors at the Ministry of Interior. The meeting was convened to assess the voter registration process that ended last Sunday.

In an interview with Sawt Al Shaab published on Saturday, Dr. Dajani said after the voter lists would be "reconsidered during the first half of August" to be ready for possible elections.

Reservations over the planned issuance of special voting cards were expressed on the basis that the process could dramatically bring down the actual number of voters as when the next parliamentary elections are held. Some observers noted that a good



Rajai Dajani

number of the 912,011 voters who registered their names this month had done so with active encouragement and help from potential candidates. In many cases, the family registration books of voters were carried to the centres for registration by supporters of Parliament hopefuls in a bid to ensure voter support in elections. If the process entails another trip to civil registration centres with photographs, the

(Continued on page 3)

## PLO studying Lebanese parliament decision to abrogate Cairo accord

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is preparing its response to Lebanon's decision to scrap an agreement giving Palestinian fighters freedom of action in refugee camps and parts of South Lebanon.

A spokesman told reporters the PLO Executive Committee would issue a statement defining its attitude to Thursday's decision by the Lebanese parliament to cancel the 1969 Cairo agreement.

He gave no details, but the PLO's radio, broadcasting from Baghdad, described the move as being "a negative decision which represents a big threat."

It said the decision would encourage the Shi'ite Amal militia "to escalate its aggressive war against the Palestinian camps."

In Cairo, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met top cabinet ministers on Saturday to discuss the consequences of the abrogation of the accord.

All 44 deputies present during Thursday's session of the 99-seat Lebanese parliament voted in favour of cancelling the agreement with the PLO.

The agreement signed on Nov. 3, 1969, between army commander Emile Bustany and the head of the PLO, known as the

Cairo agreement, is considered null and void," a parliamentary law said.

The decision came less than a month after the Palestine National Council (PNC) reiterated at its Algiers meeting that the agreement was still valid.

It also coincided with a resurgence of Palestinian guerrilla activity in South Lebanon, where hundreds of PLO fighters have returned since Israel's 1982 invasion.

Parliament also withdrew authorisation it had given to President Amin Gemayel and former Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan to conclude a now-defunct troop withdrawal agreement with Israel signed on May 17, 1983.

The U.S.-sponsored accord, designed to ensure the withdrawal of Israeli and other foreign forces from Lebanon, was never implemented. Mr. Gemayel abrogated it on March 5, 1984.

A parliamentary source told Reuters the abrogation of the Cairo agreement could only be reversed if Mr. Gemayel asked parliament to vote a second time.

The agreement signed by Mr. Bustany and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was always being controversial and right-wing

Christian leaders have consistently called for its abrogation.

After 1982, Muslim leaders, particularly Shi'ite Amal militia chief Nabih Berri, also demanded that it be scrapped.

Parliament approved the agreement but was not informed of its exact contents. The text was never officially published, but was leaked to Beirut's independent An Nahar newspaper.

According to the text published by An Nahar in 1969, the accord allowed the PLO to set up military bases in South Lebanon to launch attacks on Israel.

It also permitted the PLO to keep heavy weapons at more than a dozen refugee camps across Lebanon for self-defence against Israel.

A PLO faction said Friday it would disregard the annulment of the Lebanon-PLO accord and said it had a legal right to attack Israel from Lebanon.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said: "The right of our people to continue its just and legal struggle from Lebanon and other countries is a legal right.... the legality of this struggle is not abrogated by a decision from the Lebanese parliament."

## Tories go on defensive as Labour seizes initiative

LONDON (Agencies) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was forced on the defensive on Saturday as the opposition Labour Party appeared to seize an early initiative in the campaign for Britain's general election on June 11.

Mrs. Thatcher, still well ahead in opinion polls, had to backtrack on an apparent promise that state-funded schools might be allowed to charge parents fees to raise extra money.

"We have not thought to preclude schools from raising extra sums of money," Mrs. Thatcher said.

As opposition politicians seized on the remark, the ruling Conservative Party had to rush out a statement saying that Mrs. Thatcher's words had been misunderstood.

But Labour leader Neil Kinnock, campaigning in his native Wales, accused the prime minister of wanting educational opportunity to be governed by money.

"It shows her scrap metal mentality and her complete lack of concern for the waste of talent the system will bring," he said.

The liberal Guardian newspaper, commenting on the controversy in an editorial, said: "It could and should be a vote loser

of quite extraordinary importance."

At the end of the first week of campaigning, the education row seemed to illustrate the way in which Mrs. Thatcher trying for an unprecedented third consecutive term in office, has been wrong-footed by the Labour challenge.

Although Conservative support appeared to have fallen only marginally in the polls to about 42 per cent, Labour had gained about four points to around 33 per cent, while the centrist Alliance had fallen two points to around 23 per cent.

If Conservative support falls below 39 per cent, the prime minister would be in danger of emerging from the election without an overall majority in the 650-seat parliament.

The pro-Thatcher Times of London, reviewing the first week's campaigning, said the consensus of opinion was that Labour was doing astonishingly well.

But the Times said Mrs. Thatcher was still on course to win a comfortable parliamentary majority, if somewhat below the 140-seat advantage she held in the last parliament.

## Arabs burn Israeli car in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Enraged Palestinian residents of the occupied Gaza City burned an Israeli car after its driver ran over and killed a seven-year-old boy in a road accident on Saturday, a Palestinian source said.

The source, speaking to AP on condition of anonymity, identified the boy as Kaamer Naser Abu Raqr. He said Israeli troops surrounded the area, arrested about a dozen Palestinians and ordered several shops closed.

The source said there were no other injuries.

An army spokesman confirmed a Palestinian boy was "injured or killed" in the Gaza City incident, and said that residents "caused some disturbance" in the area.

It was a second reported incident in the occupied Gaza Strip in two days. On Friday, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian man after he allegedly detonated a firebomb near an Israeli car. No injuries were reported in the blast.

On Friday, an unidentified Israeli official was quoted by AP as saying the Israeli occupation authorities were planning to re-examine the "situation with penalties" for resistance attacks in the occupied territories.

The official did not elaborate, but Israeli Radio said Israeli military courts were to be instructed to impose "harsh" sentences on Palestinians charged with anti-Israeli activities.

In another incident on Saturday, an assailant shot and wounded a relative of a mayor in the occupied West Bank town of Jenine, a police spokesman and Israeli Radio said.

"The assailant was waiting for his victim near the place of the attack," said a police spokesman.

The spokesman refused to answer questions regarding the identity of the wounded man. But Israeli Radio said the man was a relative of Mohammad Lachluch, the mayor of Jenine where the attack took place.

The radio reported the assailant fired two shots from a passing car, wounding his victim in the head. It said the car was bearing distinctive West Bank licence plates.

The Israeli army imposed a curfew on the area, which was combed by police and Israeli troops.

## Moscow: Superpower summit possible in '87

VIENNA (Agencies) — A senior Soviet official said in an interview published Saturday that a summit between Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan was possible this autumn provided Geneva arms talks made sufficient headway.

"If an agreement on the liquidation of medium-range missiles is reached and if we agree with the Americans on key issues in reducing strategic aggressive weapons and on 'star wars' problems, it would be a sufficient basis for holding a summit," Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily Rude Pravo.

But Gerasimov accused U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger of opposing an arms agreement with the Soviet Union

## Newspaper says Gorbachev to meet Peres in Romania

Polyakov, after talks in Brussels, asserts no-one has right to dictate Mideast solutions

LONDON (Agencies) — Diplomatic sources in Moscow have said a secret meeting could be held next week in Romania between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, a London newspaper reported Saturday.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli foreign Ministry official denied the report in the Guardian, and the newspaper, itself, quoted chief Israeli foreign ministry spokesman Ehud Gol as saying "no such meeting is planned."

Nevertheless, the Guardian said senior diplomatic sources in Moscow said Mr. Gorbachev was planning to meet with Mr. Peres in Bucharest while Mr. Gorbachev is in the Romanian capital for talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu. The Soviet leader is due to arrive in Bucharest on Monday.

The Guardian said a Gorbachev-Peres meeting was planned as a key step in the reopening of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, which were broken off 20 years ago.

Soviet diplomatic sources said arrangements for the meeting were agreed during Mr. Peres' talks with the Soviet ambassador to the United States, Yuri Dubinin, this week in Washington, according to the Guardian.

The newspaper said secret Israeli-Soviet contacts at a lower level were widely believed to have taken place recently as part of Mr. Peres' efforts to secure a Mideast peace conference with international participation.

In Brussels, a high Soviet official said Friday nobody had the right to dictate solutions in the Middle East and repeated Israel

was the main obstacle to a peace conference.

Vladimir Polyakov, director for Middle East and Arab countries at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who had two days of talks with Belgian foreign affairs officials, told the press "we want everybody around the (conference) table."

Belgium is currently chairing the European Community, which in February gave its firm support to a Middle East peace conference.

"We must seek a solution all together, in multilateral and bilateral talks," the Soviet official said. "We are in favour of contacts with Israel. All attempts should be made towards a solution (of the Middle East conflict) which is in conformity with all

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S. senators to appraise plan to fly American flag on Kuwaiti tankers

White House, State Department split over Murphy remarks

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A U.S. Senate team headed for the Gulf on Saturday amidst growing concern in Congress over American plans to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers following last Sunday's Iraqi attack on the USS Stark.

Official U.S. sources in Bahrain told Reuters the team was the first of three expected shortly as Congress calls for a reappraisal of policy in the Gulf after the death of 37 American sailors.

The senators will arrive to face strong opposition from some Gulf states to increased superpower involvement in the area, where Iran and Iraq have now been at war for nearly seven years (See Page 2).

The United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Khaleej on Saturday forcefully attacked any increase in U.S. military presence, likening American policies to those of Adolf Hitler and saying they threatened to spark a new world war.

In the wake of the Stark attack, the Reagan administration has delayed action on a proposed sale

of 12 F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia.

Plans to reregister 11 Kuwaiti tankers under the U.S. flag have also been blocked by an overwhelming vote in the Senate.

At least one of the three U.S. delegations is expected to visit Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq which has said it launched last Sunday's Exocet attack on the Stark by mistake.

The U.S. sources said the first team, headed by Tennessee Democrat Jim Sasser and representing the Senate Appropriations Committee, was to arrive in Bahrain late Saturday.

A second delegation will include former World War II pilot and astronaut John Glenn and John Warner, former U.S. navy secretary under President Richard Nixon.

An 11-man navy board of inquiry is already investigating how Iraqi Mirage F-1 jets managed to fire two Exocet missiles into the Stark despite the frigate's sophisticated defences (See page 2).

The U.S. investigators are expected to be briefed on the attack

by the regional American navy command, but diplomatic sources said they would probably concentrate on what have become highly controversial plans to allow Kuwaiti oil tankers to fly the U.S. flag in the strategic Gulf waterway.

The move was conceived before the attack on the Stark to protect Kuwaiti vessels repeatedly attacked by Iran.

But the U.S. Senate voted 91-5 on Thursday to block the deal until the administration compiles a full report on just how the reregistered tankers would be protected.

Mr. Reagan's middle east envoy Richard Murphy said on Thursday Iran would be unlikely to strike U.S. flag tankers, but Tehran warned earlier in the week it would not hesitate to do so.

One plan mooted by administration officials in Washington has been a joint air defence "umbrella," linking U.S., British and French forces in the Gulf

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## Iran sees superpower intervention in Gulf

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian officials on Saturday charged Iraq deliberately raided the USS Stark last weekend and warned Washington would face more "problems" if it maintains its military presence in the Gulf.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati urged U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to "resume initiatives to restore security to the (Arabian) Gulf and ease the heightening tensions."

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, said Mr. Velayati's appeal was contained in a cable he sent Saturday to the U.N. secretary-general.

According to IRNA, Mr. Velayati told Mr. Perez de Cuellar the attack on the USS Stark was "premeditated and designed to pave the way for the superpowers to directly intervene in the region."

Iraq has acknowledged that an Iraqi plane fired the missiles that ravaged the Stark and killed 37 American sailors.

But Baghdad said the Iraqi pilot mistook the guided-missile frigate for an Iranian vessel. Mr. Velayati said any U.N. initiative should guarantee the withdrawal of foreign warships from the Gulf.

Hussein Sheikholsalem, deputy foreign minister for political affairs, said earlier: "It is better for the United States to pull out of the Gulf, before it faces more problems." (See page 2).

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# Gulf Arabs fear more militant U.S. posture after Stark attack

By John Owen-Davies  
Routier

**BAHRAIN** — Gulf Arab states are concerned that Iraq's missile attack on an American warship could result in a more militant U.S. posture in the area, diplomats in the region have said.

They said Gulf officials had privately welcomed what they saw as a firm and measured U.S. response to Sunday's attack on the frigate Stark, which both Washington and Baghdad said was an accident. Thirty-seven American sailors died.

Reassuring for Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies, which look Washington as a mainstay for its protective umbrella, was President Ronald Reagan's renewed commitment to free navigation in the Gulf despite the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

U.S. warships in the Gulf now have orders to "shoot if threatened."

The diplomats said the Gulf states, some of which give service

facilities to the American navy, feared that any U.S. strike against an Iranian target could backfire on them.

Iran was quick to capitalise on the attack, which it said showed the U.S. navy as a "paper tiger." It urged both Washington and Moscow to pull their navies out of the Gulf.

By contrast, there has been an embarrassed official silence from Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, which generally support Iraq.

"There is no doubt that the six states have been deeply embarrassed by the Stark attack ... They know something went very

wrong and that silence is the best policy," one diplomat said.

The diplomats said the Reagan administration had told GCC states it would play down political aspects of the incident.

The measured U.S. reaction and fresh efforts by Washington to end the Gulf war could go some way towards restoring American prestige in the Gulf, the diplomats said.

U.S. credibility in the Middle East was badly dented late last year by the Iran arms scandal, which generated a deep and lingering suspicion about American policies and motives.

"The relationship between Gulf states and the U.S. is like a Roman Catholic marriage," said a Western diplomat. "They sometimes fight and claw at each other but know there can be no divorce."

The Stark, one of seven U.S. warships in the Gulf was the first victim of a superpower naval build-up aimed at deterring Iranian attacks on shipping and safe-

guarding Gulf Arab oil export lanes.

Shipping sources say the Soviet Union has four warships in the Gulf, while Britain and France have two each.

U.S. naval capabilities were unlikely to be seriously questioned by the Stark's inability to defend itself, diplomats said.

"The man in the street who does not know how these systems operate might raise questions ... but officials must know these things happen," one diplomat said.

In an overt show of support for Washington, Kuwait is pushing ahead with plans to have 11 of its tankers fly U.S. flags, thus allowing them American naval protection.

Kuwait has also chartered three Soviet tankers to help take its oil through the Gulf.

One of them, the 67,980-tonne Marshal Chuykov, hit a sea-mine as it approached Kuwait last Saturday with a Soviet warship escort.

## China calls for end to Gulf war

**PEKING (Agencies)** — China's Vice Premier Wan Li on Saturday called on Iran and Iraq should stop fighting and resolve their dispute, the official Xinhua news agency said.

Mr. Wan made his comments at a meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hossain Sheikhholeslam, the agency said.

Mr. Wan said that by ending the 6½-year-old war, the two nations could avoid further losses, ease tensions in the Gulf and prevent outside forces from meddling in the region.

Even if the war cannot be stopped immediately, China hopes the two countries will refrain from further aggravating the situation and guarantee safe, free navigation in the Gulf, he said.

A Chinese freighter was seriously damaged last February in an artillery and rocket attack by unidentified gunboats in the Gulf.

China has taken a stand of strict neutrality in the Iran-Iraq war and has denied becoming a major arms supplier to both parties, particularly Iran.

Mr. Sheikhholeslam told a news conference Friday that the United States should stay out of the Gulf to avoid future problems such as last Sunday's Iraqi attack on the frigate USS Stark. Thirty-seven U.S. sailors died.

He said the presence of ships carrying both Soviet and U.S. flags will only increase tension in the Gulf.

Kissinger backs U.S. role

In Charleston, South Carolina, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Friday the United States must protect Gulf shipping despite the attack on the Stark.

"We cannot, every time Americans get shot at, cut and run. And we cannot have a debate every time Americans are in danger about whether the administration should have put them in danger," Dr. Kissinger said in a speech.

Speaking at a meeting of businessmen, Dr. Kissinger called the Gulf "a vital area and it cannot be measured by the percentage of oil we get because if the world economy collapses, ours will be in great danger too."

The U.S. Senate passed a measure Thursday calling on President Ronald Reagan to inform Congress about the threat to U.S. shipping in the Gulf. The Senate wants to know the rules under which U.S. vessels can defend themselves and the role of European allies in defending the sea lanes.

But Dr. Kissinger said: "I think the constitutional balance between the executive and the legislative (branches) is getting totally out of balance. In moments of danger the executive must have some discretion."

He said Congress can set the general direction of foreign policy through the budget and periodic hearings.

## Bonn emissary arrives in Iran in bid to secure hostage release

**BONN (Agencies)** — A Bonn government emissary has flown to Tehran in a fresh bid to secure the release of two West Germans held hostage in Beirut since January, West German radio and television stations said late Friday.

The reports named him as Hans-Juergen Wischnewski, a senior figure in the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) and an experienced trouble-shooter in the Middle East and Central America. The government refused to comment.

Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt were kidnapped by pro-Iranian Shi'ites in an apparent bid to prevent the extradition to the United States of Mohammad Ali Hamadei, a comrade currently held in West Germany.

Mr. Hamadei is wanted on charges of air piracy and murder in connection with the 1985 hijacking of a Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight from Athens to the Lebanese capital. His brother Abbas, a West German citizen, was arrested on suspicion of complicity in the Beirut kidnappings.

A U.S. serviceman was killed during the 17-day hijacking. Mr. Cordes was kidnapped on Jan. 17 shortly after Mr. Hamadei's arrest at Frankfurt airport on arrival from Beirut with liquid explosives, and Mr. Schmidt five days later.

Tehran is reported to have channels of communication to the Beirut kidnappers holding the West Germans.

Radio reports quoted an unidentified member of the Bonn

government as saying the U.S. was pressing for the extradition of Mr. Hamadei.

An official news blackout imposed on the affair soon after the kidnappings remains in effect.

A private television network reported Friday that Mr. Wischnewski was to offer to Tehran the release of the two Hamadei brothers in return for freedom for Mr. Cordes and Mr. Schmidt.

The network, SAT-1, did not identify its sources for the report.

**Ex-hostage returns to Beirut**  
Meanwhile, a French hostage freed by captors six months ago returned to Beirut Friday, saying he could not stay away from Lebanon.

"Lebanon is my second country," said Marcel Coudari, 54, of Marseille, who was freed from about 10 months of captivity Nov. 10.

Mr. Coudari, who hails from Syrian origin, became the first foreigner freed from captivity to return to Lebanon.

He arrived by boat to the port of Jounieh from Cyprus. The balding Coudari spoke in an interview aired Friday evening by the rightist-controlled Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation.

When released, "I said that I will return to Lebanon and I did," he said in French.

Mr. Coudari's abduction was claimed by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation, which is be-

lieved loyal to Iran.

Mr. Coudari was freed along with another French hostage, Camille Sontag, 85.

Mr. Coudari's return coincided with the second anniversary of the abduction of French hostage Jean-Paul Kauffmann's.

In Paris, the French government said Friday negotiations for the release of its hostages in Lebanon had reached an impasse.

"Last December we greatly regretted that the Iranian authorities, who had made certain agreements with us, did not stick to them," Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond said in a radio interview.

"Since then, there has been a sort of plateau that is probably linked to local circumstances ... it is possible that there is a greater distance between the kidnappers and the various states," he added, without elaborating.

Last December, television soundman Aurel Cornea was released as a Christmas gesture by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation, following mediation by Iran, Syria and Algeria. No French hostages have been freed since.

Six French nationals, mainly journalists and diplomats, are being held hostage in Lebanon. The "execution" of a seventh, sociologist Michel Saurat, was announced by the Islamic Jihad group in March 1986 but his body has never been found.

The department mentioned the hardships of living in a country wracked by civil war and also cited reports containing allegations of Lebanese employers raping Filipino maids and of workers being commandeered by militias to fill sand bags under sniper fire.

No figures were released on the number of Filipinos working in Lebanon, but the department estimated there were about 25,000 Asians in there.

The warning was issued at the request of the Philippines ambassador to Jordan, Juan Saez, AP said.

## Lebanese accused of abusing Filipino workers

**MANILA (R)** — The government has warned Filipinos against taking jobs in war-torn Lebanon because of "inhuman working conditions" and physical attacks by employers.

The Department of Foreign Affairs said Filipinos were being forced to work long hours for little money, were frequently beaten up and could not quit their jobs for fear of being deported.

Several thousand Filipinos are employed in Lebanon, mainly as housemaids, construction workers and nurses.

The department, in a report issued Friday, quoted a Lebanese

employment office manager as saying: "The most frequent complaint I receive from maids is that they are regularly beaten by their employers."

"It is not sadistic behaviour from the employers but the Eastern way of discipline. But as a person you expect to have the right of a human being and not an animal," the manager said.

A Lebanese hospital administrator was quoted as saying: "Filipino registered nurses are hired by hospitals because few Lebanese nurses are willing to work in Lebanon for the kind of pay they have to offer."

## U.N. group to monitor human rights abuses in Iran

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — A committee of the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has voted 23-6, with 15 abstentions, to keep alleged human rights abuses in Iran under scrutiny.

Iran voted against the resolution and was supported in ECOSOC's social committee by Oman, Pakistan, Romania, Sri Lanka and Syria.

## U.S. court to debate rights of foreigners to free speech

**LOS ANGELES** — A Federal district judge has said that a higher court should decide whether foreigners in this country have the same right to free speech as American citizens.

Judge Stephen Wilson said the district court lacked jurisdiction to decide whether a 1952 law allows the government to deport aliens for expressing views it considers subversive. He left the matter to be decided by the United States Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

The case concerns the Justice Department's effort to deport seven Palestinians and a Kenyan who has accused of making speeches

and distributing literature in support of a Marxist faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Lawyers for civil liberties organisations who are defending Khader Musa Hamide and Michel Ibrahim Shehadeh, who the Justice Department has claimed are leaders in southern California of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said they were disappointed with the judge's decision.

The case grew out of the arrest by the Justice Department of seven Palestinians and a Kenyan in January and February.

— The New York Times.

## 1st Iraqi missile shot straight through Stark

**BAHRAIN (Agencies)** — The first Iraqi missile that slammed into the USS Stark punched through the warship from one side to the other but failed to detonate, then a second missile exploded and touched off an inferno, a source close to the investigation said Saturday.

In Washington, meanwhile, Pentagon sources told AP that the military investigators were focusing their attention on a suspicion the ship's anti-missile system was not in full working order.

The source in Bahrain, fresh from a visit to the crippled warship, said one Exocet missile tore a gaping hole through the port side of the Stark.

Entering the vessel at a slight downward angle near the ceiling of one of the decks, it bore a gaping tunnel through the vessel then hit the inside of the starboard hull, punching a small hole in it.

The warhead on the lethal, wave-skimming missile failed to explode and the Exocet did not exit through the hole, said source, who did not want to be named.

The second missile then entered the vessel, although no entry hole has been found and it is not yet clear where it first struck the vessel, the source said.

It barreled down into a small, confined area where it exploded, causing a tremendous amount of damage because the space was limited, he said.

It exploded "upwards and outwards" right next to some of the crew's quarters, helping spark a fierce blaze made worse by the presence nearby of chemical-filled piping, the source said.

It is still not clear what type of missile the second one was.

The source described the mood among many of the surviving crewmen as "angry" and said there was feeling that in the future, Iraqi planes should be shot down if there is any evidence of an attack being prepared.

The devastated crew's quarters and electronic control room, now a mass of tangled steel and dangling cables, have been carefully scrutinised by the 10 U.S. navy investigators, the source said.

Much of the probe is being conducted on board the guided-missile frigate, where 37 crewmen died in the missile attack last Sunday off Qatar.

The Pentagon sources, who spoke only on condition of not being identified, said there were questions about whether the Phalanx anti-missile system on board was in full working order at the time.

They stressed, however, there was no evidence the Phalanx could not have fired on the missiles approaching the Stark if the crew had had time to switch it to automatic.

The ship's skipper has said he was maintaining the Phalanx in manual mode at the time of the attack and the crew did not have time to switch it to automatic.

According to the sources, though, even in manual mode the Phalanx system should have alerted the crew that its radar was tracking something.

"It would not have fired, but it should have provided alarms," said one official. "The report that it didn't is troubling and that's where (the investigators) are starting."

## Fire extinguished at Kuwait's Ahmadi port

**KUWAIT (AP)** — A fire broke out overnight at a petroleum gas tank in the Ahmadi port area, 50 kilometres south of the capital, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Saturday.

It quoted an authoritative source at the Information Ministry as saying the blaze, which engulfed a tank at a new gas project at about 21.15 p.m. was "brought under total control."

There were no casualties, the agency reported.

The ministry officials, who was not named, did not give further details. The incident is the latest in a series of explosions and fires at oil installations in Ahmadi area and other targets in downtown Kuwait since June last year.

A Yemeni national, the only casualty reported in these incidents, was killed when a bomb ripped through a travel bureau in Kuwait's fashionable Fahd Al Salem Street 10 days ago.

The state security court is scheduled to issue verdicts June 6 in the case of 16 pro-Iranian Kuwaitis who were charged in connection with the earlier Ahmadi blasts. Four of the accused were tried in absentia.

The ring of alleged saboteurs was cracked on the eve of the Islamic summit conference which opened in Kuwait on Jan. 26. Iran boycotted the summit after demanding to have its venue shifted, charging Kuwait with supporting Iraq in the Gulf war.

"By carrying out subversive acts, the deviationist faction wanted to block the convening of the Islamic summit, by giving the impression that Kuwait is insecure," Kuwait's Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad said in an interview published this week.

Sheikh Nawaf told the Lebanese magazine Al Hawadess that a "relentless pursuit of the fugitive saboteurs" was under way.

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## Italy upholds convictions in Achille Lauro hijacking

**GENOA, Italy (AP)** — An appeals court on Saturday upheld convictions against seven Palestinians in the hijacking of an Italian cruise liner, sentencing four Palestinians to life in prison.

The life terms were handed down after a three-hour court session against four fugitive officials of the Palestinian Liberation Front (PLF), including its leader, Mohammad Abbas, and a PLF colonel.

The four are accused of masterminding the October 1985 hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise liner, which began its Mediterranean cruise from this northern Italian port.

Youssef Magied Al Molqi, leader of the hijackers, was given 30 years in jail, a penalty unchanged from the previous sentence given him by a lower court here in July 1986.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
<b>PROGRAMME ONE</b>	
14:00	Koran
14:10	Programme Review
14:15	Children's programme
14:25	Ramadan Contest
14:35	Local Puzzles
15:10	Cooking Programme
15:25	Arabic series
15:30	Historical series
17:30	Religious Programme
17:40	Arabic series
22:15	Tomorrow's programme
19:45	Religious programmes
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:30	Arabic Series
22:15	Tomorrow's programme
22:20	Local Series
23:00	News summary in Arabic
23:10	Arabic series
24:00	Arabic film
<b>PROGRAMME TWO</b>	
17:25	Une si jolie petite plage (French feature film)
19:00	News in French
19:15	La force du destin
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:40	Friday morning prayer
20:00	News in Arabic
21:00	Islamic Art
22:00	News in English
22:30	Miss Marple (new mini-series)
<b>RADIO JORDAN</b>	
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 96.0 KHz, SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsdesk
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:45	Pop Session
11:30	In Concert
12:00	News Summary
12:45	Pop Talk
13:00	News Summary
13:45	Pop Session contd.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	News Summary
14:30	Science Report
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Listeners' Choice
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Jazz Hour
19:00	Newsdesk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:45	Evening Show continued
22:00	Evening Show continued
23:00	News Summary
23:57	News Headline
24:00	Close Down
<b>BBC WORLD SERVICE</b>	
639, 720, 1323 KHz	
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07:45	Reflections
08:00	World News Summary
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24:00	World News Summary

## WHAT'S GOING ON

# TODAY'S EVENTS

## EXHIBITION

\* Artistic exhibition including 50 plates, by Jordanian plastic artist Mohammad Sabah Khamis, at exhibition hall, Plaza Hotel. The exhibition runs through Wednesday.

## CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267  
American Centre .. Tel. 643771  
British Council .. Tel. 6361478  
French Cultural Centre .. Tel. 637009  
Goethe Institute .. Tel. 641993  
Soviet Cultural Centre .. Tel. 64203  
Spanish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 62040  
Turkish Cultural Centre .. Tel. 639777  
Haya Arts Centre .. Tel. 665195  
Husseini Youth City .. Tel. 6671816  
Y.W.C.A. .. Tel. 641793  
Amman Municipal Library .. Tel. 637111  
Univ. of Jordan Library .. Tel. 843555

## MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.  
Folklore Museum. Jewellery and costumes from 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum. Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Gallery. Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabel Alweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630126.

## CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Alweibdeh, Tel. 637440.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Alweibdeh, Tel. 661757.  
Terra Sancta Church (Roman Catholic), Jabel Alweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622566.  
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 625383.  
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771731.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.  
St. Eusebius Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.  
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational); meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeissan, Tel. 677534.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Amman, Arabick Service: Sunday 7:00 p.m. English Service: Sunday 9:00 a.m. English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Rev. N. Smir, Tel. 811295.

## SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.  
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel, 7:30 p.m.  
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.  
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.  
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.



## King to open congress of Al al Bait Foundation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein will open the sixth annual congress of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation) in Amman on June 16, and will deliver a national address on the occasion, according to an Al al Bait press release, Saturday.

It said that the opening will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre, but the sessions will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel and the Jordan Academy of Arabic, under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The six-day meeting is expected to discuss a host of subjects on its agenda and organise a seminar to devise a strategy for investments in Islamic banks.

A total of 154 participants from Arab and foreign countries are expected to take part in the meetings.

## Tunisia donates money to Al Aqsa reconstruction

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia met Saturday with President Habib Bourguiba and received a cheque as part of Tunisia's contribution to the reconstruction of the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock in Arab Jerusalem.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, did not disclose the amount of the contribution which will be delivered to a special committee in charge of the restoration work, chaired by Islamic Chief Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mheilan.

The meeting with the Tunisian president at the city of Carthage was attended by Tunisian Prime Minister Rashid Sfar.

## Jordan, Oman review cooperation in education

MUSCAT (Petra) — Cultural attaché at the Jordanian embassy to Oman, Ali Qba'a, Saturday reviewed with the Omani Minister of Education, Yahia Ibn Mahfouz Al Muntheri, Jordanian-Omani relations in the educational fields, in particular issues which concern Jordanian teachers in Oman.

They also discussed new loans of Jordanian teachers for the next year to Omani schools and community colleges, and utilisation of Jordanian expertise in education at Sultan Qaboos University.

Talks during the meeting also dealt with the Jordanian educational mission in Oman.

The Omani minister praised the existing cultural and educational relations between the two countries and thanked the Ministry of Education in Jordan for providing Oman with qualified expertise.

Some 1,000 Jordanian teachers are currently working in Oman and this number is expected to be increased during next years.

## Computer system to aid blind set up with EC help

AMMAN (J.T.) — As a result of an European Community (EC) grant to the British-based Cooperation for Development, a microcomputer workstation has been installed at the Friendship Association for the Blind as the first of its kind in Jordan, to evaluate the potential of microcomputer-based methods for training blind and visually impaired Arabic-speaking people.

The inauguration of the system at the Friendship Association for the Blind was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid, president of the association. The ceremony was also attended by the British ambassador to Jordan, an EC representative, and a representative of Cooperation for Development.

Specially designed for use by blind people, written work can be produced through the use of synthetic speech commands, and a "Braille" attachment produces printout in Braille thus making it readable to the blind and visually impaired.

The acquisition of word-processing skills based on this system could lead to employment opportunities presently denied to blind people.

**EC-RSS cooperation**

Phase II of cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) began officially on April 13, with the signing by the EC of the financing agreement. The RSS is required by government to:

- develop and transmit technological knowledge relevant to the needs of Jordan, and
- provide technical services to the public and private sectors of industry.

This three-year project aims at strengthening the capabilities of the RSS in order to enable it to meet these requirements through:

- Performing applied research and development activities relevant to local needs.
- Participating in the establishment of national standards, specifications and codes.
- Performing technical evaluation and testing of materials and products, to control quality and conformity to national and international standards.

Particular emphasis is placed on developing links with European research institutions, including the Joint Research Centre (JRC) at Ispra in Italy, in the fields of solar energy, rock mechanics, calibration, and fire testing equipment.

Training of RSS personnel in Europe is included in the project (two are already in the U.K. on a Ph.D. course) as well as the provision of equipment for the Departments of Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry, Centre for Building Research, and Information and Budget.

## Government to go ahead with plan for voter identity cards

(Continued from page 1)

observers say, the number of voters actually undertaking to obtain the voter cards could be low, perhaps as low as 50 per cent of the registered electorate.

Potential candidates said a majority of the electorate favoured the process adopted during the 1984 by-elections. This process entailed voters being allowed to vote upon producing their family books at the various voting centres. "It also simplifies

the process since the same family books are used (by the voters) for registration in the voters' list," commented a potential candidate who did not want to be identified.

According to Article 20 of the Electoral Law, the interior minister is empowered to issue voter identity cards. According to one lawyer, although the law allows the minister to issue such cards, "it does not oblig him" to do so.

The law's text says: "The interior minister issues a voter identity card to each voter." According to the lawyer, "the

statement permits but does not oblig."

The voter identity card, according to the law, would be permanently valid for all future elections.

The idea of voting cards had also come under criticism in the local press and in public debates. Some argued that voters with family books should be allowed to vote by producing the same document and not forced to go through the complicated process of obtaining photographs for each member of the family and submit-

ting a new application requesting voting cards.

Others maintained that family books which have been accepted as documents of identification cannot serve as providing accurate information about the present living place of their holders. Yet some others said that the absence of voting cards did not negate voting right in an election as long as the family book provides absolute evidence that its holder is a Jordanian national and eligible for voting since he or she is above 19 years of age.

"Therefore it would be advisable for them to respectfully draw from the Gulf, leaving its security to the littoral states," he added.

IRNA quoted him as saying that it was customary for Iran to issue warnings prior to embarking on any action, so that instead of a serious confrontation, the problem would be solved in a better way.

"We are ready to comfort any foreign power in the ... Gulf and could easily endanger the interests of the superpowers in the region," he said.

## U.S. senators to appraise Gulf naval protection plan

(Continued from page 1)

with Saudi Arabia.

The Glenn-Warner team will represent the Senate Armed Services Committee and is expected to start its visit in a few days time with a trip to the Saudi capital of Riyadh followed by Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Iraq.

A third delegation from the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee is also due in the region shortly.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Friday the Reagan administration would not make a final judgement on the Senate vote on Thursday until it sees the House of Representatives also approves the measures.

Reflecting a split within the administration, Fitzwater also disagreed with testimony Thursday by Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy had said that an attack by Iran on American naval

forces would open a new dimension to its war with Iraq, leaving open the possibility of American involvement.

"We disagree with Murphy's testimony," Fitzwater said. "He was not authorised to say that."

Fitzwater said, "our position is that reflagging (of Kuwaiti vessels) is just a deterrent but does not represent an increase in hostilities in any way."

Later at the State Department, spokesman Charles Redman rejected one reporter's contention that the White House had disavowed Mr. Murphy's suggestion that attacks on armed military vessels would add "a new dimension" to the Gulf war.

Redman said Mr. Murphy's presentation made "exactly the point that deterrence has worked for many years and we have every expectation that it will continue to work. That was the thrust throughout of Ambassador Mur-

phy's comments."

"He in no way believes that war is likely," Redman declared. "He was asked in fact that question explicitly and he said, 'I'm not suggesting anything such thing.'"

The spokesman drew the attention of reporters "to the total context of the briefing" and said, "what came through very clearly was that he in no way expected that to occur."

Kanal Kharazi, the head of Iran's war information headquarters in Tehran, asked the superpowers on Saturday to leave the Gulf region as soon as possible.

"Interference of the superpowers in the (Arabian) Gulf under the present circumstances is a stupid action. It will put them to shame if an Iranian gunboat sinks their fleets," the official Iranian News Agency IRNA quoted him as saying during a press conference in Tehran.

"United Nations Security Council members would mediate between Arabs and Israel," Mr. Polyakov said, rejecting direct Arab-Israeli negotiations. "We want the conference to be carefully prepared and productive. We want Arabs and Israel to live in peace as good neighbours."

Mr. Polyakov said a consensus was emerging in favour of the conference, but Israel was the main obstacle.

"Most countries are in favour of the conference," he said, "Even Syria, which was wrongly said to oppose it. Arabs are adopting a very constructive attitude towards Israel, but Israel has a negative, unconstructive position."

The Soviet Union wants to break the present deadlock with the international community,"

"Gorbachev to meet Peres"

(Continued from page 1)

parties concerned."

"We believe the conference should guarantee the security of all states in the area," Mr. Polyakov added, "including Israel. It should not be a pro-Israel or pro-Arab conference. It should be the basis for seeking a global and just settlement" of the Middle East conflict.

"The conference should not be a forum for mutual accusations," the Soviet official said, "but it should seek peace. It should not be the occasion for an Israeli-Arab verbal war."

AMMAN (Petra) — The Greater Amman Municipality will be taking part in a conference for mayors of world capitals scheduled to be held in Canada on October 20. Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh will head Jordan's delegation to the four-day conference.

## 10th medical mission leaves for Sudan with relief supplies

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian medical mission flew to Sudan Saturday to deliver additional medical and other relief supplies to victims of the drought and famine in that country.

The mission members were seen off by Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh who said that Jordan's continued assistance to the Sudanese people reflects this country's responsibility towards Arab brethren everywhere. It is hoped that other Arab states will join Jordan in assisting the Sudanese people, and helping them overcome their present difficulties, the minister said.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the Jordanian medical teams being sent to the Sudanese city of Kass have been expanding their services to include neighbouring regions where they have set up medical centres to ease the load on the Kass hospital.

The new mission, the 10th of its kind to be sent to Sudan, comprises doctors, specialists, technicians, and male nurses, accompanied by large quantities of medicine, food supplies, electrical appliances as a gift from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Earlier missions carried similar supplies; the whole operation started after a visit to the affected



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh (far left) sees off the 10th Jordanian medical mission to Sudan on Saturday. Accompanying the delegation are badly needed medical supplies (Petra photo).

regions in Sudan by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The medical group was also seen off by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, who is also rapporteur to the National Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People. Several other officials also were present as the mission members left aboard a special plane bound for Khartoum.

Relief ship leaves Aqaba

As the medical mission and relief supplies left Amman, it was announced that a vessel carrying relief supplies to Eritrean people living in Sudan left Aqaba port bound for the African nation.

The shipment comprises food and medical supplies sent as a gift from the National Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People.

## Ministry team meets with municipal councils in Zarqa Governorate

ZARQA (Petra) — A working team from the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Saturday visited Al Sukhneh town near here and discussed with its municipal council members details of projects included in the current 1986-1990 five-year national development plan.

Also, discussed was the municipality's budgets for the coming three years and projects to be carried out between 1987 and 1990.

Agreement was reached on the construction of roads at the cost

of JD 126,000, gardens and parks at the cost of JD 10,000, the purchase of machinery at the cost of JD 23,000, sports facilities at the cost of JD 14,000, and shopping centres and car parks at the cost of JD 115,000.

The same working team later visited Ruseifa near Zarqa and

met with the head of its municipal council, Musleh Tarawneh.

The two sides discussed projects to be carried out by Ruseifa Municipality and agreed on projects to be carried out over the coming three years costing altogether JD 1.154 million.

## Amman mayor to attend int'l conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Greater Amman Municipality will be taking part in a conference for mayors of world capitals scheduled to be held in Canada on October 20. Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh will head Jordan's delegation to the four-day conference.

## No cut in overtime pay, Rifai assures doctors

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government will not slash overtime allowances for public sector doctors, as it did to other government employees, Jordan Medical Association (JMA) President Mamdouh Abbadi said Saturday.

Dr. Abbadi, who earlier emerged from a meeting with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, told the Jordan Times that Mr. Rifai had assured him that the allowances would continue to be paid.

The government decision, he said, was "good news" for nearly 1,300 doctors working for the Ministry of Health. Dr. Abbadi, who won the association's elections for president last month, pledged at that time to make the allowances issue the main item on his work agenda. Overtime allowances make up nearly 35 per cent of government-employed doctors' salaries.

As part of several austerity measures adopted earlier this year, the government decided to suspend payment of overtime allowances to most public sector employees.

After his election on April 10, Dr. Abbadi pledged to do "all we can to convince the government against it."

He told the Jordan Times that slashing doctors' allowances, if carried out, "would have reflected badly on their performance." He said that allowance paid to public sector doctors since 1965 "should not be viewed the same way as overtime paid to other government employees."



Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi

He explained that these doctors were originally paid the 35 per cent allowance "as an incentive to leave their private clinics and work for the government. It should not be considered overtime."

According to Dr. Abbadi, the cost of the government treasury of keeping the allowances was nearly JD 600,000. "We should not let the doctors' performance deteriorate and their work hours shrink for that little," he told the Jordan Times after his election last month.

Dr. Abbadi secured 769 votes against 569 votes for Dr. Hassan

Badran who was his closest opponent in the elections. Only 1,731 doctors of 3,510 registered doctors actually voted.

Dr. Abbadi said that during his meeting with the prime minister, he discussed a plan to bring the services of all public sector medical institutions "to work under one umbrella." He said the move was aimed at "avoiding duplication in the work of these institutions." The three government institutions are the Ministry of Health, the University of Jordan Hospital and the Royal Medical Services. In addition to these institutions, medical services are provided by the private sector, as well as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine refugees.

During the meeting with Mr. Rifai, Dr. Abbadi also discussed "problems related to the medical council and other issues." In an earlier interview, Dr. Abbadi said there were "some loopholes" in the council's laws which "did not help it operate properly." He cited inadequacies in the council's examinations of newly-graduated doctors which he said made it difficult for many qualified doctors to pass and get their licences.

Unemployment among doctors is one of the main problems facing the JMA in addition to the drive to expand medical services to rural areas and widen the health insurance plan to cover all citizens.

The JMA is also working towards committing commercial companies and institutions to insure the health of their employees.

## Red Crescent president back from Arab meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, president of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) returned to Amman Saturday after taking part in a meeting of the executive committee of the Arab Federation of Red Cross and Red Cres-

cent Societies held in Jeddah on Thursday.

Dr. Abu Qoura said that the meeting endorsed a proposal for distributing medals for distinguished humanitarian acts and discussed amendments to the federation's bylaws.

## Dangers of pesticides focus of University of Jordan panel

AMMAN (Petra) — A scientific seminar on the effects of pesticides on plants and grass was held at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture on Saturday.

A specialist from the American state of Colorado outlined that pesticides could cause side-effects and lead to plant diseases and soil

damage.

Specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Faculty of Agriculture took part in the seminar. Meanwhile, a team of specialists from the Balqa Agricultural Department Saturday made a tour of the Balqa district to guide farmers on the employment of pesticides and the spraying of vegetables.

## Carriages could make Petra more accessible

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Horses pulling buggies through the ruins of Petra may soon be an option available to the elderly, invalids, and others, according to Mr. Nasri Atalla, director of the Department of Tourism at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Antiquities.

Many are often denied the pleasures of one of the oldest historical sites in the Kingdom, as they are unable to cope with the journey on horse or on foot. Others, who tour Petra by car, risk polluting the ruins with the fumes.

"We want to keep Petra as pure and as full of adventure as possible," said Mr. Atalla. It was his idea to start the project of horse drawn carriages in Petra over a year ago.

However, to date the experiment has not proved to be successful. "Anything new needs experimentation. Experimentation with carriages is still ongoing as we have not found the appropriate type of wheel," he said.

An English carriage expert

came to Jordan over a year ago and tried two kinds of wheels. "The wooden wheels could not take the rocky surface of the terrain in Petra. He then tried steel wheels with a rubber coating, but again the surface proved to be too harsh for the rubber," explained Mr. Atalla.

When Princess Ann visited Jordan, she expressed interest in the project, and upon her return to England, she contacted the master of the queen's horses who suggested a certain carriage-maker.

Mr. Atalla said that the carriage-maker was sent an invitation three weeks ago to come to Jordan. "He will be testing inflatable tyres with shock absorbers when he comes," he said.

A carriage to withstand the rigours of Petra is not the only feat which must be overcome. Also, horses have to be trained to pull the carriages, these horses have never seen a wagon before, added Mr. Atalla.

Egyptians were brought to train the team for one month, and Mr. Atalla noted that their efforts were successful.

## Seminar seeks ways to reduce smoking

AMMAN (Petra) — The hazard of smoking was the topic of an open dialogue held at the University of Jordan Saturday. Specialists and members of the private and public sectors took part in the discussion in which different ways of encouraging people to give up smoking were taken up.

Speakers underlined the important role of families and schools in this endeavour and in helping to protect the general public health.

Several speakers outlined the history of cigarette smoking and some of the dangers smoking poses for pregnant mothers. Also the mortality rate among smokers and diseases caused by smoking were discussed.

The gathering was organised by the University of Jordan in cooperation with the Health Ministry and the National Society for Combating Smoking.

## Report stresses need for increased feed production

AMMAN (J.T.) — A report compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture reveals that animal wealth in the Kingdom accounts for 5.7 per cent of overall domestic revenues and that the demand for food is prompting more people to give more care to animal husbandry.

But, the report said that one of the main constraints in developing this wealth lies in animal breeders depending on unreliable pasturelands. Insufficient amounts of animal feed and lack of interest among farmers to grow green fodder and other types of animal feed are also responsible for the low level production and financial returns.

Though large quantities of corn and barley can be grown in Jordan, the report noted the country continues to depend largely on imported animal fodder and feed concentrates to feed its animals and livestock. It said that seven Jordanian processing plants now operating in the Kingdom are not sufficient to meet the national need.

According to the report, Jordanian pasturelands provide up to 70 per cent of the total needs of animal feed during three to four months of the year, depending on rainfall in different areas. This means that pasturelands can only meet one quarter of the annual food needs of animals in Jordan.

The report gives recommendations for promoting the role of pasturelands and increasing amounts of fodder. It calls for, among other things, providing incentives and encouragement to farmers by supplying fodder to them at competitive prices, and providing farmers with implements and thereby helping them to create additional pastureland.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Hawamdeh holds talks with road group

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh Saturday discussed with the president of International Road Federation, Gerald Welson, existing fields of technical cooperation between Jordan and the federation and means of bolstering this cooperation. They also discussed increasing exchanges of technical expertise and scholarships as well as holding seminars and conferences during the present and next year.

### Hindawi graduates Terra Sancta students

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi Saturday attended the graduation ceremony of the 39th batch of students of Terra Sancta College held at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Sports City. The ceremony included national dances and songs and various musical performances. Mr. Hindawi distributed certificates to the 44 graduates at the end of the celebration. The graduation ceremony was attended by a number of ministers and officials as well as parents of the graduates.



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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# The Housing Bank reaches maturity

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE Housing Bank boasts 80 branches covering the whole country plus mobile branches that serve remote villages and bedouin camps on weekly basis. The bank is thus positioned to attract the bulk of savings from the widest public replacing the pillow or the brick as a safe haven for the little money that families save for harder times.

It is not surprising to find out that the Housing Bank share of savings accounts in the country is equal to 80 per cent of the combined shares of other commercial banks. The saving accounts of tens of thousands of people give the Housing Bank enormous financial strength and enhance its capacity to enter into long-term investments without fear that a few major deposits may suddenly be withdrawn, squeezing the bank's liquidity and putting it in an embarrassing situation.

The Housing Bank did not capitalise on its extensive network of branches only. It also conducted effective and far-reaching publicity and promotion campaigns. Prominent among its tactics are the highly publicised monthly prizes distributed among the holders of saving accounts. The prizes distributed among the holders of the saving accounts. The prizes, generous and substantial as they may look, do not cost the bank more than one third of 1 per cent annually, when related to the outstanding balance of the savings accounts. Other banks cannot match the Housing Bank in this respect, because the smaller size of their deposits renders cost too high to be tolerated.

This does not mean that we don't have our reservation and comments on how the Housing Bank is being run. The last annual

report indicates that the share of Amman governorate from the loans extended by the bank was 56 per cent in 1983, and rose to 70 per cent in 1984, up to 80 per cent in 1985, and finally reached 84 per cent in 1986. If this trend continues, the Housing Bank will become an instrument to collect savings from the poor parts of the country to be invested in the capital city. This practice is obviously not fair, despite all the banking considerations and justifications, and the fact that the capital city has more capacity for absorptions, and the fact that the capital city has more capacity for absorptions, having almost 35 per cent of the population.

On the other hand we did not change our mind regarding the necessary conversion of the Housing Bank into a full fledged commercial bank. Especially when the Central Bank started long ago to include Housing Bank figures with those of commercial banks for all statistical and economic purposes.

It would be a positive step forward to abolish the present law of the Housing Bank and ask the bank to reconcile itself with the Law of Banks within a reasonable transitional period of one to three years. Such a step would no doubt serve the national economy, and the banking system but, on the longer term, it is in the best interest of the bank itself, its staff and shareholders.

The Housing Bank is no more the infant that needs exceptional protection as the provisions of its current law suggest. It has grown to become a distinguished Jordanian institution. This remarkable success beyond doubt brings with it some burdens and responsibilities, and calls for the transit into a new phase. The time is right

because the fixed interest rates on old housing loans are no more considered to be concessional rates. They are realistic and profitable in the present environment.

We honestly believe that no serious harm would be caused to the bank if it starts to pay the usual dividends on the government's ordinary shares, the Treasury rights in corporate income tax, and the Real Estate Department dues in property taxes and normal transaction fees, and maintain with the Central Bank the necessary cash reserves like any other bank that takes deposits from the public. (Some of these things are gradually happening despite the public. In return the public sector corporations should pay obsolete law). In return the public sector corporations should pay to the Housing Bank the current rates of interest so that their real cost of funds is properly determined without undue distortions.

Let us face it. The Housing Bank is no more a public sector institution as it was upon its inception 21 years ago. It is now effectively a major shareholding banking company. The present law of the Housing Bank is too small to fit its size and accommodate the actual activities of the bank when financing of low income housing is but a minor part of them.

If the government is hesitating to take the initiative, lest someone would interpret that as a revocation of previous concessions and assurances, perhaps the management of the bank and the shareholders should act, the management should crown its achievements and successes by this long-overdue daring step in the right direction.

## Double standards in U.S.

JONATHAN Jay Pollard, a U.S. navy intelligence analyst, spied for Israel. The U.S. courts duly prosecuted him. What was new in it? This was not the first, nor does it appear to be the last time Israel will engage the likes of Pollard to extract whatever secrets it will deem necessary to steal from the United States. But Pollard's was a classic case in the sense that he was the first American Jewish agent for Israel to have been brought under due process of law and served with life imprisonment. The American Jewry was stunned at the episode because, for one thing, Pollard belonged to its faithful fold; for another, its all-powerful lobby within the U.S. bureaucracy found it impossible to redeem him from what he really deserved.

The U.S. Jewry and its leaders are not so much worried about the sacred trust Israel has breached in its relationship with the U.S. in the Pollard affair. Their worry is centred on how it has simply boomeranged on them, damaging their credibility before the American public and diminishing their ability to bargain in support of Israel both economically and militarily. Stung by the Pollard affair, some 30 American Jews travelled to Israel recently in order to pressure Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to fully investigate the scandal and bring to book those responsible for it. A Knesset sub-committee was instituted for the purpose which partly assisted the U.S. Jewry and partly served to confuse the general public. The committee is on the verge of unmasking the culprits; and according to reports from Israel, the break-up of the Israeli-coalition government is more imminent over the issue of who among the upper political echelons had backed Pollard's espionage spree for Israel than over the Labour-Likud row over the Middle East peace conference proposal. The latter seems to be a stage-managed show, designed to distract attention away from the heads that may roll in the former.

What seems amazingly a paradox is that the U.S. administration, despite one or two strong complaints by some of its members, is least ruffled at the Israeli agents going amok in the U.S. in order to steal vital secrets affecting its national security. Moreover, the U.S. administration's prodigality in providing Israel with economic and military aid has never been for once called into serious doubt. All this is in sharp contrast to the hypocritically heavy-handed approach the U.S. administration and Congress adopt when it comes to the question of Arab rights. For example, it is fair play and objectivity at this juncture on the part of three U.S. senators — Charles Grassley, Bob Dole and Frank Lautenberg — to introduce legislation labelling the Palestine Liberation Organisation as a terrorist organisation in order to close down its information centre in Washington and its observer mission to the United Nations? The unmistakable impression is that they are made to play the game for Israel in order; firstly, to throw cold water on the Middle East conference, and secondly, to stifle the sting inflicted on the U.S. administration by the Pollard spy affair, making it appear a mere trifle.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Hopes for a conference

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has stated that Washington and Moscow will next month hold contacts on the prospect of holding an international Middle East peace conference. The contacts, he said, will be through Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and the head of the Middle East department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry. This step constitutes a positive development and a welcome move in the right direction, and one which should be followed up by serious action on the part of the United States so that such conference can be held and its objectives achieved. But this announcement has followed a statement by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that the idea of an international conference is dead and there can be no chance for convening this international meeting. Therefore, it is premature to believe that Washington is taking a different course from that of Israel's, and one has to wait and see the results of the superpower contacts in this regard. We sincerely hope that the coming contacts will open the way wide for cooperation among the major powers for the sake of convening an international conference to arrive at a peaceful formula for the Middle East region. At the same time we hope that the Arabs will realise the need for solidarity at this crucial stage and take steps towards holding an Arab summit meeting to help pave the way for the proposed conference.

#### Al Dustour: Worshippers demonstrate steadfastness

NEARLY 150,000 worshippers attended prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem Friday. They came from all towns and villages in Palestine to take part in religious ceremonies on the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan. But their presence in such huge numbers in the holy city bore another meaning and other far-reaching indications. The presence of such multitude of Arab people was a clear defiance of the false Israeli claims about Judaizing the city of Jerusalem after annexing it following the 1967 occupation. The city of Jerusalem remains the third holiest place for all worshippers, a fact that can never be tampered with by the Israeli aggressors who have been occupying Palestinian land over the past 20 years. The Israeli authorities have realised the far-reaching dimension of the presence of these worshippers in such huge numbers and have mobilised troops and police in a bid to confront any anti-Israeli protests. The presence of the worshippers was also a clear manifestation by the Arab population of their adherence to the holy city and their determination to confront Israel's Judaisation and colonisation measures. The Arab inhabitants under Israeli rule have thus sent a clear message to their brothers in the Arab and Islamic worlds that they are determined to pursue the struggle to regain their usurped land.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Israel prepares for aggression

ISRAEL is clearly preparing for a new incursion into Lebanon. It has massed troops along the border with Lebanon and has demolished the village of Amoun which stands in the path of troops and tanks. By such actions the Israelis have thus escalated tension in the region and many villages and towns in southern Lebanon are expecting more acts of demolishing that would further intensify the fear and increase the tension among the inhabitants. Israel's actions are another piece of evidence of the nature of the Jewish state which is marked by terrorism and inhuman behaviour. The destruction of Arab homes is a criminal action by itself and a paving of the way for yet another large-scale aggression on Lebanon in defiance of international laws and principles and a challenge to the Arab World. Lebanon's government has lodged a complaint with the United Nations against Israel's repressive actions and atrocities. It realises that the Israelis intend to carry out another devastating aggression into Lebanon. Israel's actions are clearly designed to divert public opinion from current international endeavours for peace and devote efforts by the Israeli military to further expansion and domination in the Arab region.

## In Tehran, growing evidence of frustration with war

By Loren Jenkins

TEHRAN — An anti-war demonstration last month by Revolutionary Guards urging "forgiveness" for President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has underscored a growing sense of war weariness among even the most zealous defenders of Iran's Islamic Republic.

The appearance of several hundred demonstrators seeking reconciliation with Iraq seemed almost heretical, given the animosity between the two warring countries.

Iran's leader wasted little time in replying to demonstrators. Within a week of the protest march, Ayatollah Khomeini made one of his rare public appearances. The 86-year-old ayatollah emphasised, once again, that as long as he lives he has no intention of ending the

war until it causes the downfall of the Iraqi government.

But the fact that the protest took place at all provoked much speculation. Unless at least one faction among the country's religious power brokers approved a challenge to existing policy, this kind of protest would not have taken place.

Since Ayatollah Khomeini emphatically ruled out any compromise, all talk of backsliding in the war effort, which has caused up to half a million casualties on each side, has ended, at least publicly. But foreign analysts say they do not believe that private debate has ceased.

"I think it is clear that so long as Khomeini remains alive and Saddam in power in Baghdad, the war will continue," said one foreign diplomat who has served in Tehran for most of the six-year

war. "But the merits of the war and how it is conducted," he said, "are very much an issue among those who are jockeying to inherit Khomeini's power."

The chief contenders for power include the speaker of the parliament, Hashemi Rafsanjani; President Ali Khamenei; Prime Minister Mir Hussein Mousavi and Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, who has already received the official nod to succeed Ayatollah Khomeini when the Iranian leader dies.

"Just where each stands on the war is not totally clear since publicly they all have to endorse it," said a Middle Eastern ambassador. "But you can be sure you did not have a demonstration in favour of a negotiated peace in the streets of Tehran if someone powerful was not behind it."

The demonstration lent cre-

dence for the first time to rumours that members of the Revolutionary Guards, or Pasdaran, the 350,000-strong corps of religious zealots who have led Iran's most successful offensives in the war, have begun to question the tactics of mass assault that they pioneered at great cost.

But when some of them sought to beseech the religious leadership to change the near-suicidal military tactics, Ayatollah Khomeini reportedly refused to hear of it.

The indications of disenchantment can be traced to the January offensive against Iraq's strategic southern port city of Basra.

In almost a month of human-wave assaults against Iraqi defences, the Iranians managed to push about six miles into Iraq before the operation wound down in February. The estimated cost was staggering: close to

20,000 Iranians dead and another 45,000 to 50,000 wounded.

Iran is believed to be having little difficulty so far in filling its ranks with new Revolutionary Guards and the young, ill-trained Basiji, or volunteers from the countryside.

Last year, according to military analysts in Tehran, Iran was able to recruit about 500,000 volunteers for the war with very little effort, bringing their total armed forces to more than one million men.

Many of the Basiji, however, are recruited for limited periods of a few months to serve in a particular offensive. They are then allowed to return home to their farms or villages. When the next offensives are under way, a new mobilisation is called and often some of the same Basiji join up again.

Aside from providing volunteers to fill the ranks of the infantry led by the Pasdaran, Iran raised two new corps of Basiji this way last year. They were the 100,000-man Mohammad Corps and the 130,000-man Mahdi Corps.

"I don't think there is any real footdragging over the war from the peasantry, which is the largest single group fighting it," said a Western diplomat. "Religious fervor and just old-time Iranian nationalism is such that no one is really against the war."

"But the issue which is being debated privately is just how it is being fought and at what cost," the diplomat said. "There are some who appear to be questioning not so much the war, but its cost in men, materials, and perhaps more importantly, in scarce foreign reserves." — Washington Post.

## Hundreds of Tamils vanish after arrest, group says

By Andrew Tarnowski

Reuters

BATTICALOA, Sri Lanka — Hundreds of Tamil civilians have disappeared in this eastern region of Sri Lanka after being arrested by British-trained security forces, local clergymen, a citizens' group and trade unionists say.

The Batticaloa Citizens' Committee, a volunteer group set up in the predominantly Tamil area to help distressed people during Sri Lanka's ethnic conflict, says it has documented 650 cases of men aged between 14 and 55 who have disappeared since their arrests were reported by relatives.

In each case the authorities have denied holding the men, the committee says. In addition, it says more than 1,260 Tamil civilians have been killed by security forces in the region since the conflict began in 1983 and up to 2,000 Batticaloa men are held in a camp at Boosa, south of Colombo.

Committee members also allege there has been frequent torture of the detainees suspected of links with guerrillas fighting for an independent Tamil homeland in Sri Lanka.

Batticaloa security officials were not available to comment on the charges.

Internal Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told Reuters in Colombo that while he doubted the committee's objectivity he did not dismiss completely the allegations of disappearances.

However, he said authorities had received no official complaints and therefore could not begin an investigation.

"I will tell you why they are not making complaints. Behind them are the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) militants who are telling them not to make a complaint to the police but to go to the world press and organisations like Amnesty International," Athulathmudali said.

The Citizens' Committee says the Tamil majority among Batticaloa's 50,000 inhabitants are too afraid of police — almost all from Sri Lanka's majority Sinhalese community — to complain about their behaviour as they hunt Tamil rebels.

Committee members showed Reuters hundreds of affidavits sworn before a justice of the peace by relatives and friends of missing men, detailing how they were detained.

They said they had affidavits for the arrest of each of the 650 people they believe are missing.

Committee members allege most of the men were held in round-ups which are carried out almost daily by the Security Task Force (STF), an anti-guerrilla unit they say is trained by Kenya.

Meeny Services, a British company employing ex-servicemen from Britain's crack Special Air

Services.

Residents say 50 to 200 youths are rounded up in each day's operation, and paraded before hooded informers who point out suspected members or sympathisers of Tamil rebel groups.

Most detainees are quickly freed but suspects have been beaten during interrogation, residents and former detainees say.

Sam Tambimuttu, a 55-year-old retired lawyer and secretary to the committee, showed Reuters a schedule of 359 missing people detailing the date and circumstances of their arrests.

The list was sent to the co-ordinating officer of Batticaloa security forces, police superintendent C.D. Mendis, in March 1986 asking for information on the whereabouts of the men. Mendis' reply on September 26 said only nine of them had been arrested.

The committee has since prepared a second schedule of 97 missing and Tambimuttu says a further 200 documented cases will shortly be made up into a third schedule.

Citizens' Committee officials say a few of the missing may be informers held by security forces. They decline to speculate publicly on the fate of the others, some of whom have been missing since 1984.

A Tamil clergyman from Batticaloa's small Christian minority said: "They either died under torture in security forces' camps or in reprisals after guerrilla landmine attacks."

People who live nearby "tell us they see smoke and smell the stink of corpses from the camps," said another clergyman.

He said Sri Lankan security laws permit police to dispose of bodies without a post-mortem examination.

Asked to comment, Athulathmudali denied a statement by a committee official that it had asked the government to set up a legal body to investigate its allegations but received no reply.

The minister, who has overall responsibility for the security forces, said he doubted the value of the affidavits sworn by relatives of the missing.

"In Sri Lanka affidavits don't have much value unless they are tested by cross-examination," Athulathmudali said.

He added: "I'm not prepared to believe everything the committee says is false, even though they are not elected bodies and have never said one thing against terrorism."

However, Athulathmudali said the security forces had denied the disappearances — "so how do we proceed if these people in Batticaloa are not prepared to complain to the police?"

"We would welcome them to make a complaint. Why don't the Citizens' Committee bring all those people to us?"

## Trying to recoup, Italian Communist Party seeks white-collar and business vote

By Frances D'Emilio

The Associated Press

ROME — Determined to end a 40-year shutdown from government leadership, the largest Communist party in the West is reaching beyond its traditional blue-collar base and courting professionals, women and industrialists.

The parliamentary elections scheduled for June 14-15 aren't likely in themselves to determine the makeup of Italy's next government, the 47th since the end of World War II. But a strong showing at the polls provides leverage during discussions to determine which party gets the premiership and which will be coalition partners.

The Communists, although only a few points behind the Christian Democrats, have had to content themselves since 1947 with being the largest opposition force in parliament. The Christian Democrats have led, by themselves or in coalition, every government since 1945.

Elections were called a year ahead of schedule to end a political crisis sparked when the Christian Democrats demanded back the premiership from Socialist Bettino Craxi, who held it for 3½ years.

Communist Party officials say Italian voters are fed up with government that don't last and are ready for a change.

Communist Party leader Ales-

sandro Natta said in an interview in *Corriere Della Sera*, Italy's leading newspaper, that the latest crisis was "a radical and definitive one in our view."

Natta said a government including Communists must not "count only on the historic forces of the workers' movement, the Communists and the Socialists, but must also include other forces from different matrices, lay and also Catholic."

He also gave assurances of the party's commitment to NATO and said it opposed unilateral disarmament. The Italian party has strongly criticised the Soviet Union on occasion, chiding Moscow over human rights issues and insisting on what it sees as the right of every Communist Party to determine its own policies.

Natta, in other comments, has reacted strongly against speculation that the Communists and Christian Democrats might team up to shut out the Socialists and other, smaller parties from government. He calls such prospects, evoked by Craxi, an invented "ghost."

The Communist Party has been moving to broaden its appeal.

Unita, the Italian Communist daily, took on a new look in April. It now has less space devoted to ideological arguments and more pages covering the stock market and private industry.

"Unita is all new," reads a

magazine advertisement for the paper. "New battles, new ideas, new desires."

"The new ideas are a democracy and a society in which there is work for everybody, where technology is modernised without recourse to nuclear or military technology," Unita editor Fabio Mussi said in an interview.

He said the Communist Party's constituency includes "the social classes which traditionally belonged to us, the workers, but we are trying to talk also to the new professionals, youth, women."

"I don't mean 'yuppies,' who have made a career of making money their religion," Mussi said, referring to a term used in the United States to describe young, ambitious people.

Communists also are trying to woo environmentalists. Among the candidates the party will field next month are several big names in the Italian environmental movement.

Mussi also pointed with pride to another candidate, a former president of the Italian stock market watchdog commission.

Walter Veltrone, a party official in charge of campaign publicity, said the Communists are hoping to attract more business people who feel the country's overall growth has been hampered under the long reign of the Christian Democrats.

Mussi said the "perpetual political crises" don't foster confi-

dence in Italy, nor allow the governments to carry out reforms the Communists have called for in health care and education.

Veltrone says that while Italy has been enjoying an investment boom, the south, plagued by unemployment, remains underdeveloped, health care is poor and education is in dire need of reform.

On the wall behind Veltrone's desk is a photograph of the late party chief, Enrico Berlinguer, a charismatic leader.

A few days after his death in 1984, the Italian Communists, apparently bolstered by a sympathy vote, outpolled the Christian Democrats, 33.3 per cent to 33 per cent, in European parliament elections.

But the next year, in local and regional elections, the Christian Democrats chipped away at the Communists' big city power bases, such as Rome, Bologna, Milan and Turin. The Christian Democrats won 35.7 per cent of the vote; the Communists slipped to 30.2 per cent.

The setback triggered a period of soul-searching for the Communist Party. There was even talk of changing its name or dropping its symbol, a hammer and sickle on a red flag.

"The symbol will stay," Mussi said. "It's good for people to know where the origins come from."

## Hondurans crack down on Nicaraguan rebels

By Anne-Marie O'Connor

Reuters

CAPRE, Honduras — In a bid to draw displaced Hondurans back to their homes, Honduran authorities have cracked down on Nicaraguan rebels in border areas, military officers say.

As the U.S.-backed contra rebels took virtual control of the border area over the last four to five years, Honduran peasants fled the once prosperous coffee-farming zone.

Authorities say some 12,000 Hondurans fled a 450-square mile region that became derisively known as "New Nicaragua". Some 25,000 left the area along the length of the 250-mile border with Nicaragua.

In this small border town of Capre only two families stayed after Nicaraguan troops crossed into Honduras and clashed with the contras here last year.

So far, about two dozen families have found their way back to Capre and the small villages nearby.

Honduran officers hope that more villagers will come back as the region is purged of the "wild west" flavour it acquired when rebels had the run of the place about two years ago.

Then, armed rebels staggered drunk down the main street. Fighters fired guns into the air. Rebels planted land mines to prevent attacks by Nicaraguan government forces, and they in turn mined paths used by the contras.

After the United States resumed military aid last autumn, the main contra army, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), moved some 6,000 troops from Honduras to Nicaragua, where they are trying to topple the leftist Sandinista government.

About 4,000 rebel fighters remain in this country, officers said.

Latent Honduran nationalism and frustration over the costs of the rebel presence have apparently motivated Hondurans to crack down on the contras.

Honduran authorities took command of the area in December and began striving to restore a semblance of normality here. Soldiers evicted thousands of rebels and their families from abandoned Honduran homes and farms, officers said.

They relocated rebel field bases far from towns and told fighters not to cross the Guano River that bisects the region, which juts into Nicaragua, they said.

Rebels were told not to come into town armed, or to get drunk in public. And authorities also began to actively discourage rebel attentions to local women — a source of tension that had occasionally produced allegations of rape.

The Honduran troop strength in the region was raised from 40 to 500 men, and rebels — and their commanders — violating the new rules have been imprisoned, Honduran officers said.

The region is sealed off to journalists, but authorities gave Reuters permission for a recent visit, during which some of the changes were evident.

Few Nicaraguans were seen in Capre and nearby villages, and none arrived armed. Most Honduran homes once occupied by rebels stood empty, creating the mood of ghost towns.

One saloon owner said he and the other liquor salesmen were prohibited from selling alcohol to armed rebels.

Although Hondurans are not flooding back to their homes, some have sent relatives to scout out the changes.

"You should come back," a Honduran officer told peasants, checking espanol grande, a few miles from Nicaragua. "The San-

dinistas aren't here. They won't come again."

But one of the displaced farmers picked a large piece of shrapnel out of the tall grass, saying, "We are supposed to return with this?"

Another man voiced a different concern: Honduran troops had detained people who lived near the border after contras accused them of being "friends" of the Sandinistas — or spies.

Admitting that problem, a Honduran officer displayed a report from the FDN intelligence chief, naming a Honduran he wanted investigated, suspected of being a Sandinista informer.

Friction between Honduran troops and rebels had provoked several such incidents, officers said, such as a rebel ambush of a Honduran soldier on a road near Capre in December 1984.

An association of displaced Hondurans "accused rebels" of murdering four Honduran peasants last December, and coffee growers named three farmers slain by rebels in 1984 after being accused of being Sandinista spies.

Honduran officers say they now disregard most informer charges, since in the past rebels accused just about any Honduran opposing their presence of being a spy.



# Defence experts see 'zap gap' in beam weapons development

By Christopher Hanson  
Kansas

WASHINGTON — Picture this: An officer in a remote and secret military command post flips a switch, activating a powerful radio beam.

Five hundred miles away, an aerial reconnaissance crew from a rival nation, on patrol, is hit by dizziness and confusion. The pilot forgets where he is or what he should be doing. He slumps over the controls.

The plane dives into the sea. Mission accomplished for the radio-beam controller.

This hypothetical scenario sounds far-fetched, but Pentagon documents show that the possibility of such exotic weaponry one day becoming a reality — specifically in the hands of the Soviet Union — worries U.S. Defence Department planners.

Some of them are concerned that the Soviet Union may be ahead of the United States in developing deadly, non-explosive weapons that would use special radio frequencies to destroy military communications, jets, and missiles, and to boggle the minds of humans.

Military analysts call this "the zap gap."

"The Soviets ... continue an intensive effort aimed at the development of high-power microwave and millimeter-wave sources for radio frequency weapons," says a recent Pentagon report.

"Soviet radio frequency technology has now advanced to the stage where it could support de-

velopment of a prototype, short-range radio-frequency weapon," it says.

"Many Western weapons systems could be vulnerable to such a device, which could also inflict disorientation of physical injury on personnel."

Normal radio waves do no harm to people or to the delicate, computer-dependent high-tech systems that are the mainstay of advanced military establishments around the world.

But U.S. scientists who are knowledgeable about radio-weapon research say certain frequencies could be channelled to blow out computer chips, turning expensive armaments into junk in a split second.

Among the key U.S. weapons dependent upon computer chips are the F-16 fighter and M-1 tank, a range of precision-guided conventional missiles, nuclear-tipped missiles and much of the military communications system, including key radar installations and satellites.

The Soviet military is somewhat less computer-dependent but still would be highly vulnerable to radio weapon attacks, according to American scientists.

Pentagon officials say radio frequency weapons might attack not only weapons but also people.

Scientific research has shown that extremely low frequency (ELF) radio beams can impair the functioning of the brain and the officials say they might be used to disorient troops.

Some American intelligence analysts believe the Soviet Union bombarded the U.S. embassy in

## BEYOND THE MUSHROOM CLOUD



Moscow with ELF radiation in the late 1970s in a test of primitive radio weapon. The Soviet Union has denied it.

ever did so.

According to U.S. scientists, strong microwave frequencies might also be channelled to sow panic among soldiers, to attack the brain stem, causing death, or to roast troops like meat in a microwave oven.

James Frazer, who did research for the U.S. air force on the biological effects of microwave radiation before joining the staff of M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, told Reuters he had worked on a "brain deactivator," using insects and small animals as test subjects.

Radio weapons that could kill people are a long way off, Frazer said, but a closer possibility would be to kill insects such as crop-eating locust swarms in Africa.

In the distant future, scientists see the possibility of lethal radio weapons that could zoom through battlefields, killing troops en masse but leaving surrounding areas intact.

Defence specialist Chuck de Caro, writing in a recent issue of Atlantic monthly magazine, said a more immediate possibility was a "chip gun" built to destroy computer chips in weapons. He said the gun could be a great defensive weapon.

A (radio frequency) pulse could be propagated over a wide zone, in roughly the same way that radio signals can blanket a city," de Caro wrote. "It might act as an electronic wall, disabling any approaching airplane, tank, or missile."

President Reagan's Strategic

Defence Initiative (SDI), known as "Star Wars," has focused on lasers — intense beams of light — and particle beams that might knock down attacking missiles in flight, providing a shield against nuclear attack.

Many scientists say such weapons would require a huge power source, which has not yet been developed and may not be practical, but that radio beam weapons would need less power.

American scientists knowledgeable about radio weapons said Soviet researchers were evidently further along than their U.S. counterparts in building a power source for such weapons — the so-called gyrotron, which emits intense bursts of microwave radiation.

They said Moscow appears several years ahead on this.

De Caro warned that, in the post-World War II era, the United States had been slow to react when the Soviet Union surged forward in key areas of weapons technology.

"The United States was unprepared when the Soviets detonated their A-bomb, in 1949. We were surprised again in 1957 with Sputnik ... In 1976 we discovered that the Soviets were working on a wide-scale, beam-weapon programme we responded seven years later with Star Wars," he wrote.

In each successive case the United States has had less time and a smaller technical margin.

"Some scientists and engineers think that for (radio frequency) weapons, the zap gap could be permanent."



Laurence Olivier and his wife Joan Plowright (File photo)

## Paeans of praise for Olivier's 80th birthday

By Susan Ellicott  
Reuter

LONDON — Laurence Olivier, acclaimed as the greatest English-speaking actor of his time, is celebrating his 80th birthday amid thunderous acclaim for a career spanning six decades.

Olivier, who gave up acting on stage more than a decade ago, became a 20th-century theatre legend through appearances that left audiences dazzled by his physical magnetism.

"He was a brilliant runner of theatres, a brilliant man of the theatre, a brilliant impresario, a very great film director, and remains the greatest actor of his generation," says Peter Hall, director of London's National Theatre.

"It is a formidable list of accomplishments," he adds in an anniversary book, "Olivier in Celebration," which gathers reminiscences from friends, playwrights and acting associates who knew Olivier — now Lord Olivier of Brighton, Britain's first professional actor to receive a peerage.

In the run-up to his birthday on May 22, the British media has burst forth with praise for an acting career which spanned more than 60 years of Shakespearean roles, light comedy and Hollywood films, for which he won two academy awards.

He is hailed as having definitively influenced all successors in his characterisations of Shakespeare's Richard III, Shylock, Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello and Henry V.

London's National Portrait Gallery is showing an exhibition of video film and photographs including a dual-headed portrait by Salvador Dali of Olivier as himself and Richard III, the role which saw him crowned as this century's supreme interpreter of Shakespeare.

Television channels have rerun some of his best Hollywood films, including "Pride and Prejudice" (1940) in which he played a smouldering Mr. Darcy, and BBC radio compiled a tribute to "the player king" from fellow actors.

Almost unfailingly they praise an actor renowned for his passion, intensity and versatility.

"It is impossible to upstage him," says actor Anthony Hopkins who was in the National Theatre Company under Olivier's directorship when it was at the old Vic Theatre.

Film director Franco Zeffirelli remembers how Hollywood drooled over the handsome young Olivier, an English clergyman's son who achieved his first London stage success in 1928.

"I had the voice Larry had the legs," his contemporary colleague, Sir John Gielgud, once

said. Those who worked with him recall the gusto and determination with which he threw himself into his roles. Months before rehearsals began for a strenuous stage role he would train daily at a London gym.

"I work from the outside in," Olivier explained.

His highly praised Othello was rehearsed in black motorbike leather gear to accustom him to the feeling of "blackness." Maggie Smith, his Desdemona, recalls she was astonished how he "vanished as a person" once he set foot on stage.

"It was like acting with a force 10 gale," remembers Billie Whitelaw, who played Desdemona after Smith.

Since 1975, a muscular wasting disease has left Olivier too frail to continue stage acting. Last week his agent announced he would no longer appear on film or television but would read verse or prose for radio or pre-filmed television programmes.

Every night London theatregoers can see a hologram of Olivier in the current West End musical "Time."

But Olivier, who once admitted "I don't enjoy acting but I can't live without it," is remembered at his peak.

Hall calls him a "magnificent stage animal," who throughout his life refined and developed his technique "until in his prime he could do anything."

The National Theatre, of which Olivier became the first director in 1963, is holding a birthday supper later this month for the man after whom its largest stage "the Olivier" was named.

Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Albert Finney, Michael Gambon, Anthony Hopkins, Diana Rigg and other leading performers will take part in a special entertainment in his honour.

Although his reputation was built as a great tragic actor, Olivier loved comedy and considered the seedy farced music hall artist Archie Rice in John Osborne's "The Entertainer" the best part he had ever played.

"I never really enjoyed the tragic parts because they cost too much," he said, adding one can get tired of suffering.

Director and playwright Jonathan Miller says Olivier's greatness lay in his ability to terrify and amuse his audiences with a "sense of seductive evil."

Others commend his stamina, attention to detail, energy and concentration.

His third wife, actress Joan Plowright, jokes she cannot tell when Olivier is acting and when he is not: "Larry? Oh he's acting all the time."

## Chemotherapy provides promising results in advanced breast cancer

By Daniel Q. Haney  
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Aggressive chemotherapy is saving the lives of some women with advanced breast cancer who almost certainly would die if given standard treatment, researchers have said.

Several studies presented at a cancer meeting demonstrate that drugs can save many, though still a minority of, women whose breast tumours are not spotted until they have spread to the chest wall.

Such tumours, so-called locally advanced breast cancer, often are considered inoperable. They are too large to be removed completely, and surgery makes the remaining cancer grow even faster.

Typically, patients with this stage of breast cancer are treated first with radiation therapy.

"Radiation would control the tumour for a short period of time, and then it would be literally a matter of months until they had recurrence," said Dr. Michael Perry of the University of Missouri. "In the past, virtually all of these patients had been considered to die."

The latest research, presented at the annual meeting of the

American Society of Clinical Oncology, used a variety of combinations of drugs and hormones to shrink large tumours so they could be removed surgically or treated with radiation.

One researcher, Dr. Joseph Ragaz of the Cancer Control Agency in Vancouver, British Columbia, said he believes women with smaller tumours also will benefit from early chemotherapy, and drug treatment before surgery might someday become a part of virtually all breast cancer treatment.

In a nine-year study, Dr. Gabriel N. Hortobagyi of M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston used a combination of three drugs to treat 126 women with locally advanced cancer.

He projected that 10 years after their diagnosis, 30 per cent of the patients will be alive without any evidence of disease. With standard therapy, he said, only 10 per cent or less of patients survive for five years, and virtually no one lives 10 years.

Hortobagyi said giving chemotherapy before the diseased breast is removed provides an important advantage.

"In this strategy," he said, "you can measure the effect of

the chemotherapy, because you still have the tumour in place. When it doesn't work, you can spare them the side effects of future chemotherapy."

Of the 130,000 women in the United States who are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, 15 per cent have cancer that is too advanced to be removed.

At the National Cancer Institute, researchers are treating these women with a combination of drugs and hormones.

Their strategy involves temporarily stopping the cancer's growth with a substance called an anti-estrogen, then speeding up the growth with the sex hormone estrogen. The tumour is more vulnerable to treatment when it is growing, and at this point they administer a combination of chemotherapy drugs.

Of 85 women treated, 25 have no sign of disease in their lymph nodes. More than the current follow up of 29 months will be necessary, however, to learn the long-term effect.

"It's encouraging, but I think we will need to have even more aggressive therapy than we have now," said Dr. Sandra Swain, who presented the institute's results.

## Health and environment risks force Dutch clampdown on manure

By Jeremy Lovell  
Reuter

ROTTERDAM — The Netherlands has a pungent problem. A phenomenal growth in the number of farm animals that help produce its famed gouda and edam cheeses means they also produce 93 million tonnes of manure a year.

The government has responded by imposing new restrictions on the spread of manure and using helicopters to police them.

At the moment, the productive countryside is pervaded not by the sweet aroma of flowers — also a renowned product of the Netherlands — but by the smell of waste material from cattle, pigs and poultry whose numbers have grown phenomenally in the past 30 years.

However, the problem is not simply one of smell. It has dire health and environmental dimensions, according to government officials.

There are now 14 million pigs, five million cattle and 90 million chickens in The Netherlands, outnumbering the human population by about seven to one. Their annual manure production is equivalent to 6.5 tonnes a year per head of the 14.6 million inhabitants.

At the moment all the 93 million tonnes is spread on the country's two million hectares of farmland — and the ministry of agriculture reckons this is about 40 million tonnes too much.

Nitrate poisoning of groundwater, from which the Dutch draw most of their drinking water supplies, is now a major health hazard, according to Elise Rookhuizen from the ministry of the environment.

Rookhuizen also says research

suggests that one-third of the acid rain falling in the country is a direct result of evaporation from this manure.

And Teus van Ingen, head of the agriculture ministry's pig and poultry division, said the undigested mineral feed additives in the manure are killing soil fertility.

"This excessive quantity of manure is the biggest problem for our countryside at the moment," van Ingen added.

To combat these multiple hazards the Dutch government has just introduced stringent new laws controlling the usage and limiting of spreading of manure and limiting herd and flock size.

As part of the policing of these laws, the government will use helicopters to monitor unlawful manure spreading.

By the end of the century the Dutch aim to cut 40 million tonnes from the amount of manure currently spread each year by preventing farmers from spreading it at certain times of year, forcing them to build proper closed storage facilities and making them fund most of the costs of research into methods of treating the manure and finding alternative uses for it.

"There are possibilities of making manure a source of energy, of removing the minerals from it and turning it into a direct competitor with manufactured fertiliser, of making it cost-effective to transport and therefore to sell," Rookhuizen said.

"Who knows, if you can make clothes out of milk protein as research has shown is possible, then why not also out of manure," she added.

Since the beginning of the year, all farmers have had to register their livestock and poultry num-

bers, and from May 1 a new tax was introduced on manure production over a certain limit and based on average annual output per cow, pig and chicken.

The ministry of agriculture estimates this tax will net an average 40 million guilders (\$20 million) a year from the country's 50,000 livestock and poultry farmers, or around 600 million guilders (\$300 million) over the next 15 years.

At the same time the cost of building proper storage silos is estimated at one billion guilders (\$500 million).

A "manure bank" has also been set up to which farmers can send the manure they are not allowed to use and cannot store.

It will then transport the manure to other areas of the country which can still use it.

Farmers will have to pay the huge transport costs.

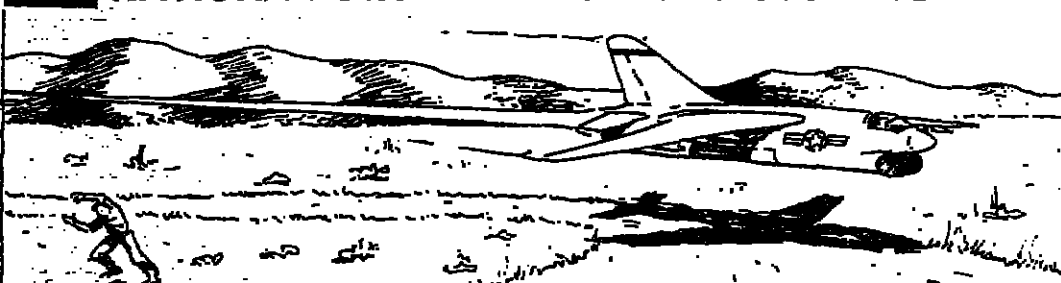
The estimated minimum bill farmers will have to foot for all these measures over the next 15 years is two billion guilders (\$1 billion).

The ministries of agriculture and environment as well as the country's farmers union all accept that these new laws may force some farmers out of business, but do not expect any very dire effects on the Netherlands' highly successful farming industry.

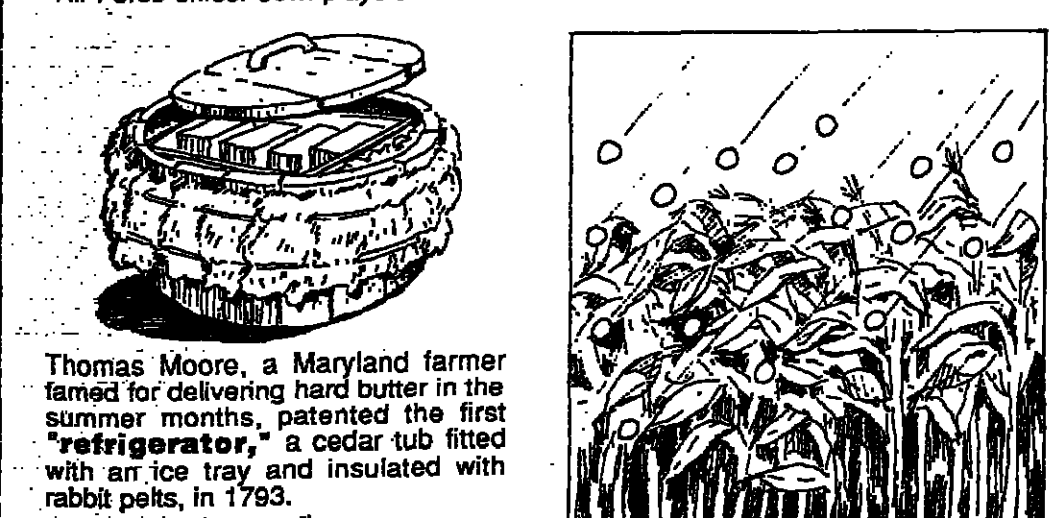
However, the farmers unions are worried at the psychological impact the laws may have on farmers already depressed over slashed milk quotas and freezes of European Community farm produce prices.

Egbert Oggel, spokesman for the Landbouwschap, the umbrella organisation of Dutch farmers and farmworkers unions, said the rate of divorces among farming families had risen recently while in the rest of society it was falling.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



Military jets frequently operate outside designated training corridors in the California Desert and scream low over frightened civilians, a practice that one Air Force officer downplays as "the sound of freedom."



Thomas Moore, a Maryland farmer famed for delivering hard butter in the summer months, patented the first "refrigerator," a cedar tub fitted with an ice tray and insulated with rabbit pelts, in 1793.



Economic damage from hail in the United States, primarily through destruction of crops, exceeds that caused by tornadoes.

Over the past 13 years, nearly 70 people have been killed on California's Imperial Sand Dunes, most in accidents involving recreation vehicles.

Drawings by Steven Walcott  
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# Ireland beats Brazil in soccer friendly

DUBLIN (R) — A rare international goal by Liam Brady gave Ireland one of world soccer's most prized scalps as they overcame Brazil 1-0 on Saturday.

It was Ireland's first home win under Jack Charlton's management and a perfect morale-booster before next week's European Championship qualifier in Luxembourg.

Ireland fulfilled Charlton's forecast that they would go one better than England — who drew with Brazil at Wembley on Tuesday — even though they spent much of the match on the defensive.

The new generation of Brazilian youngsters may not be in the

same class as their predecessors, but they frequently ran rings around bewildered Irishmen.

It was Brazil's relaxed approach, however, which brought about their downfall in the 31st minute.

Defenders stood off and allowed Brady all the time he needed to switch aim and shoot home from just inside the penalty area for only his ninth goal in 64 appearances for Ireland.

Brazil's main hope of a goal

rested with the dangerous Muller, who was thwarted by Pat Bonner in the opening minutes and twice went close in the second half before he was eventually substituted.

Mirandinha should have scored after a goalmouth scramble, but tried to be too clever and allowed the no-nonsense Mick McCarthy to block his shot.

A careless back pass by John Aldridge presented Mirandinha with another golden opportunity, but Bonner forced him wide and he was dispossessed by a crowd of Irish defenders.

Brazil left it too late to inject any real urgency into their game and three substitutions made little difference.



**AL FAISALI BEATS AMMAN:** Al Faisali midfielder Jamal Abu Abed penetrates Amman defence to outmanoeuvre the goalkeeper, Khaled Abdel Fattah, scoring the first goal for Al Faisali during a match held on Friday night at Amman International Stadium. Al Faisali's win, 3 to 0, qualified the team to take on Adduetein club in the finals on Monday night in what should be a breath-taking match between the two rivals for the Association Shield Championship. Should Adduetein team win Monday's match, they will secure the trophy. Al Faisali, however, has to play a final match to decide the winner, if it defeated Adduetein (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan).

# Chinese, Dane reach badminton finals

PEKING (R) — Number one seed Morten Frost of Denmark reached his second successive world badminton championship men's singles final after dominating China's brilliant left-hander Zhao Jianhua in Saturday night's semifinals.

The 29-year-old Dane, four times winner of the all-England title, was superb in both defence and attack and scored a surprisingly comfortable 15-11, 15-11 victory over Zhao, who had looked near-invincible in the earlier rounds.

Frost, hoping to atone for

throwing away the title in Canada two years ago, will meet another Chinese left-hander, Yang Yang, in Sunday's final. The number three seed outclassed former world champion Iku Sugianto of Indonesia 15-11, 15-5.

In the two all-Chinese women's semifinals, number two seed Han Aiping enjoyed an easy 11-4, 11-0 win over fifth seeded Gu Jiaming to reach her third successive final.

Han will meet old rival Li Lijun, the top seed, who was taken to three games by number three seed Zheng Yuli before

winning 11-6, 8-11, 11-5.

But it was Frost who deservedly took the spotlight as he proved he could turn his renowned defensive skills into attack.

Though he allowed Zhao to pull level from 9-3 down in the first game and then take an 11-10 lead in the second, Frost repeatedly had the 22-year-old Chinese chasing all over the court on what was obviously an off-day.

"It was a very entertaining match... I worked 120 per cent to win points instead of playing defensively all the time," Frost said.

# Before the deluge at Roland Garros

PARIS (AP) — The workers are bringing in the last bits of shrapnel. The hospitality tents are empty. Boris Becker walks to a practice court unnoticed.

In a few days the scene will change, as Roland Garros becomes the glamour spot of the sports world.

This complex of red-clay tennis courts is more than a place to the French. It is an event. The tennis competition that takes place there May 25-June 7 is not called "Les Internationaux De France" nor even the French Open. It is simply "Roland Garros."

Tickets are hard to obtain. The elite sip champagne in the tents and walk leisurely to their boxes while the players are serving.

Days before the event starts officially on Monday, the scene is a bustle of activity. Workers add the final bit of paint, electricians

make the final connections and sweepers receive their final instructions with their brooms on their shoulders.

But why Roland Garros? It is the name of the main stadium on the parcel of land on the extreme western tip of Paris. The French Federation, with the support of the city of Paris, purchased the land from the racing club of Paris for the 1928 Davis Cup match between the United States and France.

The "Four Musketeers" of France — Henri Cochet, Jean Borotra, Rene Lacoste and Jacques Brugnon — had beaten the United States in Philadelphia in 1927 and wanted a showplace to defend the cup in 1928.

So the racing club gave up the land with the stipulation that the main stadium would be named after one of its members, Garros

was a top rugby player for the club and was killed in an airplane fight five weeks before the armistice ending World War I was signed.

The first tennis matches at the stadium were held on May 19, 1928, with a women's doubles match between the French and British. Two days later the first matches of the international French championships were held. Although the French had fielded tennis championships before, they were French players only.

Since then the championships have developed into the major sporting event in France. The international atmosphere around the stadium complex, along with the unique competition of the slow, red clay court surface, give Roland Garros its special niche in French society.

# British runner said to have masterminded steroids network

SAN DIEGO, California (R) — Former British Olympic runner David Jenkins, who said last year he was researching body-building compounds impossible for sports officials to detect, could be jailed for 60 years after being accused of masterminding a black market in anabolic steroids.

Jenkins, 34, who was European 400 metre champion in 1971 and won a silver medal in the 1972 Munich Olympics with the British 4x400 metre relay team, was one of 34 people named in a 110-count indictment released in San Diego on Friday.

The indictment alleged many were members of a network that claimed to control 70 per cent of a \$100 million-a-year black market in steroids from Mexico.

The steroids, which can be bought in the United States only

with a doctor's prescription, have been used by athletes to build up strength, but the U.S. government has limited their legal uses because of documented side effects, including cancer.

Jenkins, a British citizen from Leicester who now lives in San Diego, was identified by U.S. attorney (prosecutor) Peter Nunez at a press conference as the alleged mastermind of the black market operation.

Nunez said Jenkins faced a maximum sentence of 60 years if convicted of all counts.

The indictment alleged Jenkins conspired with a legal Mexican drug producer, Juan Javier Macklis, to make millions of dollars worth of steroids at a factory in the Mexican border town of Tijuana, 20 miles (30 kilometres) south of San Diego.

# Czech leads milk race

BIRMINGHAM, England (AP) — Czechoslovak cyclist Vladimir Kinst won the seventh stage of the round-Britain Milk Race on Saturday, but the overall lead stayed with British professional Malcolm Elliott.

In pouring rain, Kinst broke clear of the leading group of 34 with five laps of the finishing circuit to complete, and won by 18 seconds.

Kinst, 21, from Brno, posed no threat to Elliott's lead but he did move up to eighth from 15th, and Czechoslovakia took the stage team award from Poland.

French professional Denis Leproux, from St. Calais, led in the chasing pack with Elliott 12th and still 13 seconds clear of Soviet rider Alex Zinovev in the overall standings.

# SPORTS IN BRIEF

## Bishop Tutu meets Brazilian soccer idol

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — South African Nobel peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu has ended a five-day visit to Brazil with an embrace from soccer hero Pele. "From now on I will be considered the most important man in black Africa," said Tutu, the archbishop of Cape Town, after meeting the soccer ace at Rio Airport. "I must confess that meeting Pele is a great thrill," he said. "Now that I've met Pele, I can say that my visit to Brazil is complete. I promise to return." Tutu, whose next stop is Caracas, met President Jose Sarney during the visit and asked him to cut diplomatic ties with South Africa in a protest against apartheid. Sarney declined, Tutu said.

## Bulgarian athlete wins title

TOKYO (AP) — Bianca Panova of Bulgaria turned in perfect and near-perfect performances Saturday to win the individual overall combined event of the Brothers Cup Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics meet for the second straight year. The 16-year-old Panova collected a perfect 10 points in the rope, clubs and ribbon and 9.9 points in the hoop for a total of 39.9 points before 3,000 spectators at the Yoyogi National Gym Annex. Tatiana Druchina of the Soviet Union came in second with 39.75, followed by Milena Reljin of Yugoslavia with 38.475. American Marina Kuniyavsky was sixth with 33.00 points.

## Finnish boss: Brazil are future champs

HELSINKI (R) — Finland Saturday named a strong squad for next Thursday's friendly international against Brazil, whom manager Martti Kuusela sees as future world champions. But Kuusela has no wish to lose the match which is part of Finnish soccer's 80th anniversary celebrations and he had this warning for the visitors. "The Brazilians have no evident weaknesses... but they may feel a bit superior and that could give us a chance."

# Taiwan wins 9 gold medals in athletic meet

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Taiwan bagged nine gold medals, 13 silver and 12 bronze and Japan took four golds, two silvers and one bronze on the first day of the 1987 Taipei International Track and Field Meet Saturday.

In third place was South Korea with three gold and one silver medals.

The Philippines collected two gold, one silver and bronze each, and Indonesia had one gold, two silver and bronze each. Singapore gained two bronze.

More than 400 local and foreign athletes are competing in the 32 events, which ends Sunday.

Of the competitors, 72 are from Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Singapore.

South Korean Jung Hae-Young captured the first gold for her country in the women's discus throw with a toss of 47.38 metres. She was followed in second place by Indonesia's Juliana Effendi, who hurled it 45.78 metres.

# Michael Spinks telegraphs emotions, not punches

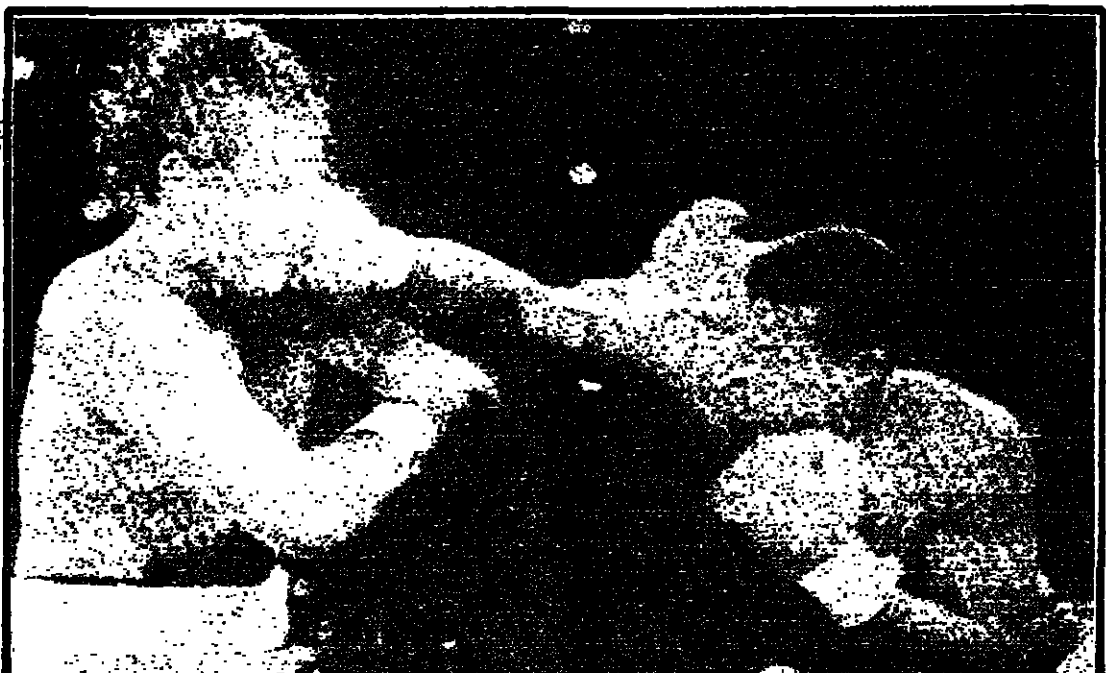
KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y. (R) — Michael Spinks still feels the pain — not from more than 15 years of boxing, but from a teacher who teased him as a 10-year-old for having holes in his trousers.

"I was a real poor kid. I didn't have but two pair of jeans. That was a low for me. Instead of going home, I just walked around crying," Spinks told Reuters on a day off recently from training for his \$12-million non-title fight against fellow-American Gerry Cooney on June 15 in Atlantic City.

"I let her hurt me with words. If only I had someone to explain what motivates someone to strike out at me like that," said Spinks in the clubhouse of the Concord Hotel in the Catskill mountains of upstate New York.

Spinks says he still feels the sting of condescending people who assume boxers lack brains and he wants to be respected for more than just being the one who beat Larry Holmes in 1985 to win the International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title.

The emotional batterings of a sensitive boy growing up in a tough St. Louis, Missouri, ghetto without a father at home, and the struggles to capture Olympic gold in 1976 and then climb the profes-



Michael Spinks (right) catches Stefan Tangstad with a stiff right on way to a fourth round victory in one of his bouts when he was on top (File photo)

sional ladder to become the first light heavyweight champion to win a heavyweight title, never seem far from the surface of the 30-year-old fighter.

Perhaps the hardest test came after his fiancée, with whom he had a daughter, was killed in a car

accident three months before he was to fight compatriot Dwight Muhammad Qawi in 1983 for the undisputed light heavyweight title.

In the days before the bout, Spinks broke down in tears more than once and was so distraught his handlers did not know if he would be able to fight. But he beat Qawi on a 15-round decision.

Spinks is a thoughtful, warm man who avoids offering pat answers, often pausing to find the right word to fit his feelings. And whether he talks about his mother, daughter or brother Leon — the tempestuous former heavyweight champion — he can become misty-eyed.

When the conversation switch-

es from family to boxing, Spinks is quick to make his views clear. He claims he should still be considered heavyweight champion by virtue of taking Holmes' title and not having lost it in the ring.

Spinks was stripped of the IBF crown for failing to defend against American Tony Tucker and quitting the heavyweight title unification series in favour of a \$7-million pay day to fight perennial "White Hope" Cooney.

Cooney, whose only loss in 29 bouts came in a title bout against Holmes, is reportedly guaranteed \$5-million to fight Spinks, who is black. Cooney has fought just three times since Holmes stopped him in the 13th round of their 1982 match.

Spinks, who last fought eight

months ago when he disposed of Stefan Tangstad of Norway in four rounds, says he expects a "nice, tough fight out of Cooney."

"I want to make him work," he said, leaning forward in his chair to make the point, while a pair of thumb-sized golden boxing gloves, cradling a diamond chip, dangle from a chain around his neck.

Spinks said he would do this "by putting up a fight, making him fight, or by being there and not being there. Or giving him something that he'll buy and I'll pay nothing for."

Translated, that probably means that Spinks, whose awkward style and ringcraft make him one of boxing's most elusive targets, will try to frustrate Cooney with bit-and-run tactics.

Despite his ring success, Spinks said that early in his career he was ashamed of being a fighter, mostly because of the way people thought of and treated boxers.

"I developed some very strong attitudes for anybody that ever talked to me as if I'm just a boxer," he said. "I don't know how to talk or act like a boxer. I know how to act like one in the ring because that's what I do. But to go on talking to me as if you can just say anything to me... I don't understand."

"People don't think that people in boxing have too much going upstairs. I mean, punch him out, punch him out, punch him out, too, if she gets in my way. I mean this type of image, this is what you portray. This is your boxing personality," Spinks said. "People don't think much of people who do that."

"I say we're all human, too. We're boxers. It's just a sport, he said, looking into the distance, as if he were talking to himself.

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Modern, 240 square metre consisting of: 1- Living/dining room + kitchen downstairs 2- Three bedrooms + 2 bathrooms and a small sitting area, upstairs.

Location: Seventh Circle

Telephone: 819776

## FOR RENT furnished or unfurnished

Second floor of a two-storey house between 7th Circle and Mecca Street. Three bedrooms, three bathrooms, large salon, and large balcony.

For more information, please call: 819372

## CONCORD

A MAN AND A WOMAN 20 YEARS LATER

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45

## RAINBOW

SUDDEN DEATH

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

## OPERA

NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN

Performances 3:15, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

## PLAZA

POLICE ACADEMY

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45

## RAGHADAN

CLASH OF THE NINJAS

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 8:45



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## FAO calls for boost to fishing industry

ROME (R) — The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) called Saturday for greater efficiency in the world's fishing industry to meet growing demand. It said in a report that demand for fish by the end of the century was likely to exceed 100 million tonnes a year, 15 million tonnes more than at present, with the greatest demand from developing countries. Forecasting a gap between supply and demand, the FAO said more attention should be given to fish farming as a way of increasing supplies. It called for greater efficiency, saying between five and 16 million tonnes of fish a year were discarded at sea by shrimping vessels.

## World Bank to lend Turkey \$304m

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank said Friday it has approved \$304 million in loans to Turkey for two projects. One project will receive a \$184 million loan to assist in water supply facility construction and maintenance in Izmir, the country's third largest city, the bank said. The other project will receive a \$120 million loan to help finance infrastructure investments in five cities in the Cukurova region in southern Turkey, the bank said. The loans are for 17 years, including four years of grace, at the standard variable interest rate, the bank said.

## Soviet Union to cease whaling

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union has decided to halt commercial whaling after consultations with scientists and conservationists, Moscow radio said Saturday. The radio said the country's last operating whaling flotilla was returning to the Soviet Black Sea port of Odessa from the Antarctic. It said the flag ship, the Soviet Ukraine, would be turned into a fisheries vessel. The Soviet Union had earlier refused to join an international moratorium on commercial whaling, saying the ban was politically motivated and scientifically unfounded. Iceland, Japan, Norway and South Korea also ignored the ban after it took effect in 1986 but have since pledged to stop hunting whales by the end of the 1987-88 season. Soviet officials said previously that the country would halt whaling in the Antarctic for technical reasons during the 1987-88 season. Saturday's radio report suggested there would be no resumption after that period.

YOUR DAILY  
Horoscope  
from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 24, 1987

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Now is the time for you to use your fine mentality to decide your future from all the various options available to you. Think out the practical aspects of your ambitions.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Pursue your personal aims, but later be concerned with a practical affair. Set up a better budget.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Study into various sources that can impel you to greater success, but be more concerned with personal aims.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** You can enjoy social gatherings, but it would be wise to take time and plan next week's activities.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Plan to get the aid of bigwigs whom you know. Be charming and get the right results.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23)** Make good use of your intuitive powers today since they are working fine. Study how to gain the backing you need.

**VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 22)** Use a new approach at whatever your mate desires. Plan how to make your wishes come true.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Cultivating new acquaintances is wise to do today, so show them charming courtesies they will appreciate.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** You can gain prestige by being of service to others today. Outline good ideas for getting projects across.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Get busy and plan for recreation and romance. Enjoy outside pleasures in the evening.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Be happy at home with kin during the day, but later get into the details of some creative project.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** It's a fine day for sightseeing or visiting around to see good friends. Answer important letters.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Study your newspaper and other periodicals for good ideas on how to gain a greater abundance.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he, or she, will have a brilliant mind and should have the finest academic education possible. Encourage this child to learn as much as he, or she, can. Your progeny will garner all the knowledge acquired to insure for success. Permit this child to participate in sports.

## THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Kenworthy

ACROSS

- 1 Buck and bones
- 5 Ancient weapon
- 10 Open
- 14 Land map
- 15 Maine college town
- 16 Utah's flower
- 17 Ma Kett
- 18 Oscar de la
- 19 Go to — (interior)
- 20 Regimen
- 21 Colic
- 24 Comes up
- 25 Inhabitant
- 26 Young girl
- 27 Old style
- 28 Tadpole
- 29 Drops
- 30 Stephen Vincent
- 34 "Was saying"
- 35 Pin under the
- 36 "A Wife"
- 37 Tiny
- 38 Deliberate
- 39 Bezel pain
- 40 Use a broom
- 42 Kind of
- 43 Long time
- 44 Hated animal
- 45 Man from Riga
- 46 Containing
- 47 Leprosy
- 50 Shade of a
- 51 bluish
- 53 Pull
- 54 Showers
- 55 Gambling game
- 56 Pie
- 58 Put
- 59 "What —?"
- 61 Moscow veto
- 62 Cypriot
- 63 Ways to get
- 64 ably

DOWN

- 1 Tor
- 2 Night pret.
- 3 Fruit
- 4 Government of a kind
- 5 Horse color
- 6 Plunders
- 7 Long time
- 8 Opp. of syn.
- 9 — of lamb (menu item)
- 10 Birthplace of St. Francis
- 11 Mock
- 12 US playwright
- 13 Curtain
- 14 supports
- 15 Confused
- 16 Skin
- 17 Mich. town
- 18 Distributed
- 19 Partisan
- 20 farewell
- 21 Turn informer
- 22 Censor
- 23 Dislike
- 24 in a way
- 25 Land
- 26 Mr. Doubleday
- 27 Paradise
- 28 West wind
- 29 Certain
- 30 Remain in
- 31 expectation of
- 32 Land
- 33 Search
- 34 Mr. Doubleday
- 35 — de France
- 36 Roentgen discovery
- 37 Gail
- 38 Cleveland's
- 39 52 Periods
- 40 Viper
- 41 — de France

## Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- 1 DOGS
- 2 KIDS
- 3 LOSS
- 4 DRAJIA
- 5 WELL
- 6 ALEXA
- 7 RAJIA
- 8 GLOJIA
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## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, May 16, '87 and ending Wednesday, May 20, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
<b>Banking and financial institutions</b>					
Industrial Development Bank	2000	2500	1.250	1.250	1.000
Peura Bank	2014	4457	2.150	2.300	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1765	3484	2.060	2.100	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	6775	11318	1.660	1.660	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	2467	3179	1.320	1.300	1.000
Housing Bank	1325	2193	1.660	1.650	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	6353	13722	2.200	2.160	1.000
Carro Amman Bank	2018	45088	23.500	22.500	5.000
Bank of Jordan	1709	30075	17.850	17.550	5.000
Arab Bank	1040	126985	122.000	122.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank for Development	36705	91745	2.480	2.490	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	87845	74653	0.830	0.860	1.000
Islamic Investment House					
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	16250	18851	1.640	1.670	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	15799	12142	0.770	0.770	1.000
National Financial Investments	59900	77068	1.390	1.420	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	51324	36652	0.720	0.740	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	12856	11550	0.890	0.890	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	1430	1971	1.370	1.390	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	1017	18276	16.000	18.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange					
<b>Insurance and reinsurance</b>					
Jordan French Insurance	3083	14975	4.850	4.800	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	419	373	0.900	0.890	1.000
Jordan Insurance					
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	1400	1134	0.820	0.810	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	700	728	1.000	1.040	1.000
Holy Land Insurance					
Philadelphia Insurance					
Arab Union International Insurance					
Jerusalem Insurance	3147	4196	1.350	1.330	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	2750	2094	0.770	0.760	1.000
Universal Insurance	1100	780	0.740	0.700	1.000
General Insurance	1450	1898	1.500	1.250	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance					
Middle East Insurance					
Al-Tadibar Insurance					
National Ahliya Insurance	8600	11399	1.350	1.300	1.000
<b>Services and industries</b>					
Darco for Housing and Investment	9827	5630	0.570	0.570	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)					
Jordan Leasing Corporation	524	353	0.700	0.680	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	23404	3301	0.650	0.640	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajeeeco					
Jordan Electric Power	7242	10939	1.510	1.510	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	1016	935	0.920	0.920	1.000
Arab International Hotels					
Hotels and Tourism					
Garage Owners Federation Office	525	2106	4.500	4.000	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines					
Jordan Press Foundation	500	1350	2.650	2.700	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	2410	5412	2.200	2.200	1.000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	8600	3779	0.440	0.440	1.000
Jordan Dairy	19588	23374	1.180	1.220	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	11921	24173	2.010	2.030	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	68500	57706	0.850	0.880	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	4628	9006	1.930	1.940	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agriculture (Intaj)	2354	3135	1.370	1.310	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1844	9109	5.000	4.900	1.000
Aladdin Industries	21850	20191	0.920	0.930	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	119740	222349	1.810	1.870	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	1154	5076	4.500	4.400	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	16980	17999	1.060	1.060	1.000
Chemical Industries	17400	18452	1.070	1.060	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	2333	1120	0.490	0.480	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	1953	2538	1.290	1.300	1.000
National Steel Industries	27100	62956	2.300	2.330	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	1100	989	0.890	0.900	1.000
General Mining	1683	2206	1.500	1.570	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5768	42028	7.250	7.380	5.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	34300	9626	0.290	0.280	1.000
National Industries	2150	1738	0.580	0.570	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	10600	3292	0.330	0.320	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)					
Livestock and Poultry					
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	4090	4758	1.160	1.160	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags					
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	766	1800	2.350	2.350	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	8950	4250	0.480	0.470	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research					
Jordan Himeh Minerals					
Orient Dry Batteries Factory					
Woolen Industries	704	408	0.600	0.580	1.000
Jordan Tanning	1479	2786	1.870	1.900	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging					
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette					
Jordan Brewery					
Mas Industries					
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals					
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	21233	18503	0.880	0.870	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	26840	18845	0.880	0.840	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	22154	67086	3.370	3.270	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	41737	40917	0.980	0.980	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	1273	1071	0.850	0.850	1.000
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,261,581</b>	<b>2,128,290</b>			

## EC, Cyprus initial customs union

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus and the European Community (EC) Friday night initialled a customs union accord which faces Greek Cypriot communist opposition and Turkish Cypriot threats to seal off their breakaway state on the divided island.

A brief official statement said: "Cyprus and the EC concluded their talks on a customs union in Brussels and an agreement was initialled."

The union, dubbed "the marriage of an elephant to a flea" by some EC politicians, would abolish all trade obstacles between the two over a ten-year period.

A statement issued by the EC Commission in Brussels said the agreement should come into force on Jan. 1 next year if ratified in time, with the customs union completed 15 years later.

Commission officials said the EC would make clear when the accord is finally signed that the union applied to the whole of the divided island.

Friday's initialling followed what officials said were five rounds of complicated negotiations that began in December 1985.

The EC is Cyprus's main trading partner, providing 54 per cent of its imports and taking 28 per cent

of its exports. There has been a substantial surplus in the 12-nation Community's favour in recent years.

Cyprus is the second country with which the Community has agreed on arrangements for a customs union.

Turkey, which last month applied for full membership of the EC, is due to complete a customs union with the bloc in 1996.

Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Rauf Denkash, this week threatened to close crossing points between his breakaway northern state, which only Ankara recognises, and government-controlled south Cyprus, if the EC went ahead with the agreement.

Turkish Cypriot officials could not be reached for comment with communications difficult across the U.N.-patrolled "green line" which divides the island.

Mr. Denkash argues that the

EC had no right to negotiate with Greek Cypriots, who run the internationally recognised government, without consulting his community. Turkish Cypriots form some 19 per cent of the island's total population.

The powerful Greek Cypriot Communist Party, Akel, has called the proposed union "a hitching of our chariot to the U.S.-dominated NATO bloc" and has vowed to oppose it.

President Spyros Kyprianou, in a concession to Akel, this week agreed that parliament would have to approve the union accord before his government signed it.

Akel has 15 seats in the 56-seat house and socialists, who also oppose the union, have six. But political experts expect Mr. Kyprianou's centrist party with 16 seats to be supported by the right-wing rally party's 19 members in the union debate.

Cyprus is already loosely linked to the EC by a 1973 association agreement. Under the union accord, the EC would dismantle customs duties and quotas on Cypriot produce and Cyprus would apply Community customs tariffs to non-EC imports.

## Egyptian eyeglass frame plant to open next month

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A \$4.5 million eyeglass frame manufacturing plant developed by American, German and Egyptian investors is scheduled to open in Egypt on June 25, officials say.

The opening of Arab Company for Optics, in which the Utah-based Standard Optical has a 30 per cent interest, culminates planning that Mr. Stephen Schubach, Standard Optical's president and chief executive officer, said he initiated in 1982.

Other partners include Menrad, a German eyeglass frame manufacturer, with 30 per cent; Dr. Mahmoud Ahmad Wahba, owner of Champion Oil Co. of Connecticut, with 36 per cent; and Ms. Sawwan Hassan Zaki with four per cent.

Mr. Schubach said that during his travels in the region, he found Egypt to have "an environment for investment which was more interesting than in other Middle East countries."

Among Egypt's attractions were the lack of any other eyeglass frame manufacturer; a trained, inexpensive labour force and the Egyptian government's willingness to give the frame plant a 10-year exemption from

paying import duties on its equipment and corporate taxes, he said.

In addition, Mr. Schubach said Standard Optical will save money by manufacturing and selling its own frames rather than depending on frames imported to the U.S. from Europe and the Orient.

The plant, in the new industrial municipality of Sixth of October City about 30 kilometres north of Cairo, initially will employ about 100 people in two shifts. The plant will manufacture only plastic frames.

Mr. Schubach said about 30 per cent of the frames manufactured by the plant will be exported, with the majority going to Menrad, the world's third-largest eyeglass frame manufacturer, and the remainder to Standard Optical.

Domestic Egyptian markets will include the nation's 200 opticians, department stores, the industrial sector and hospitals, clinics and schools.

Mr. Schubach said the plant may expand its technology to manufacture lenses in a year or two.

## SABIC nets \$64.8m profit

RIYADH (OPECNA) — The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) netted profits of over \$64.8 million in 1986, up from \$39.2 million and \$9 million in 1985 and 1984 respectively, according to Industry and Electricity Minister Abdulaziz Al Zamil.

Sheikh Al Zamil, who is also SABIC chairman, told a governing board meeting that the corporation was a key channel for diversification of the Saudi economy.



# Tornado flattens small Texas town killing at least 37 people

DALLAS (R) — A tornado flattened the small Texas town of Saragosa Saturday night, killing at least 37 people and injuring at least 110, police and local officials said.

Many of the casualties were small children injured when the roof of the community hall caved in during a graduation ceremony for an education programme for underprivileged infants, they said.

Carol Barnett, a police spokeswoman in Fort Stockton about 35 kilometres away, said one house was "twisted and crumpled like a piece of paper" with a combine harvester from a farm lying on top of it.

"Another car was upside down and sitting in the middle of what had been a grocery store," she said.

Police and health officials said

they feared the number of dead would rise as rescue workers discovered more bodies.

Mike Cox, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety in Austin, told Reuters: "Generally, in case like this you don't know the full extent until the sun comes up."

The tornado tore through Saragosa, which has a population of 185, at about 8 p.m. (0100 GMT).

Ed Krevit, the police chief of nearby Pecos, said there were 37 confirmed deaths, including many children. "I'm sure there's more than that but I can't confirm it now," he added.

The tornado, which some au-

thorities estimated had winds of more than 320 kilometres an hour, uprooted trees, demolished houses and tossed cars around like toys.

Barnett said Red Cross volunteers opened a shelter in a school in Balmorhea, 13 kilometres away.

Darkness, thunderstorms and fears of more tornadoes hampered rescue efforts. Road travel was hazardous and electricity and telephone lines were cut.

Hospital workers said many residents of Saragosa, a rural community about 320 kilometres east of El Paso, were Hispanic workers on cattle ranches and cotton farms.

Medical workers were treating victims suffering cuts, bruises, broken bones and internal injuries. Of the 110 taken to

hospital, 45 had been released early Saturday, authorities said. "I saw at least 10 people dead," said Luis Rojas, a spokesman at Reeves County Hospital which treated most of the casualties.

"There was one little girl about two years old. She looked like she was asleep, she didn't even look hurt, but I knew there was nothing I could do for her."

Tornadoes — destructive whirlwinds accompanied by a funnel-shaped cloud — often strike in the middle United States during spring and early summer.

The state's worst tornado hit Wichita Falls in April 1979, killing 42 people, injuring 1,740 and making 20,000 homeless, according to the Texas Almanac. It caused damage costing \$400 million.

## Ramos tells troops to forget politics

MANILA (R) — Philippine Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos told soldiers Saturday to forget politics and concentrate on protecting the people against armed insurgents, including communist plotters.

Amid new rumours of a coup against President Corazon Aquino, he called on his men to observe the military chain of command.

"We still have more than ordinary activities in the streets," Gen. Ramos warned his men.

Several thousand supporters of the Grand Alliance for Democracy, the main right-wing group, continued to demonstrate in front of election commission offices Friday against alleged vote rigging.

Right-wing politicians have charged there was massive fraud in May 11 congressional elections.

With 70 per cent of the vote counted, the right appears to have won only two out of 24 senate seats. Supporters of Mrs. Aquino, who denies voting irregularities were widespread, are also expected to take most of the 200 lower house seats.

Gen. Ramos, speaking at a news conference, dismissed reports of coup attempts involving the military.

He said he had received assurances from field commanders that there were no unusual groupings.

Asked about reports that some soldiers have gone absent without leave (AWOL) to support opposition protest rallies, he said: "If there are any, these are probably isolated cases. AWOL is a daily occurrence in an organisation as big as the military establishment."

## Papandreou defends government record

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Premier Andreas Papandreou opened a three-day vote of confidence debate in parliament by defending his six-year government against opposition charges of wasteful spending and embezzlement.

The premier said Friday his ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) still aimed at building a welfare state in Greece and declared the government's unpopular austerity policy would have to continue.

"We're fighting to develop the economy but it needs a solid base

## Colombo troops advance in heavy Jaffna fighting

COLOMBO (R) — Thousands of Sri Lankan troops backed by fighter aircraft are advancing slowly in Jaffna peninsula in bitter fighting with Tamil separatists, Tamil sources said Saturday.

"Citizens in the area got killed but no one knows how many," a Tamil in Vavuniya, south of the rebel stronghold, he quoted relatives who had fled the fighting as saying.

Troops advancing from military bases "were in face-to-face firing" with separatist guerrillas trying to stop them encircling rebel-held Jaffna city, he said.

Other Tamil sources said the government offensive launched this week in the northern peninsula was centred around Palaly, the main military airfield 10 kilometres from the city.

Guerrillas seeking an independent state in north and east Sri Lanka effectively control the 2,587 square kilometre peninsula, home to 800,000 Tamils, though the armed forces maintain 10 bases there.

Fighting in the flat and arid region was until this week confined largely to mortar bombardment and plane strafing.

Diplomatic sources said Friday up to 5,000 extra troops had been thrown into the peninsula this

week to back up the 2,500 to 3,000 stationed there.

Official sources said the operation as a "small-scale offensive" around Palaly, Thondamannar and Vasavilan bases as part of a strategy to encircle Jaffna city but not necessarily capture it.

They said heavy resistance by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrillas continued Saturday and had stopped the troops advancing more than 1.5 kilometres from the bases.

"For some peculiar reason, the military is keeping its offensive under wraps," said a government official who is usually informed of military operations.

A brief government statement Saturday said only that an army camp at Jaffna Fort, in the city, was bombarded by mortars and that security forces had retaliated.

Travellers from Jaffna said fighting was taking place in villages such as Punnakadduwan and Kadduwan near Palaly.

Tamil sources said Italian-made Sial Marchetti aircraft strafed Nallur, the LTTE headquarters just outside Jaffna city.

The city, home to 150,000 people, has come under constant mortar fire and now resembles a ghost town.

## Gandhi calls for peace as patrols guard Delhi, Meerut

NEW DELHI (R) — Troops patrolled New Delhi's ancient walled city and nearby Meerut Saturday after Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi promised tough action to prevent further Hindu-Muslim clashes that have killed 63 people since Monday.

Mr. Gandhi appealed for peace Friday night after four people were killed in New Delhi and nine in Meerut Friday. Several people were stabbed and rioters burnt shops in the capital, witnesses said.

Mr. Gandhi said in a statement he was deeply distressed by the sectarian strife, which has claimed 57 lives in Meerut since Monday and six in New Delhi, 75 kilometres away. Six people have also been killed in an isolated clash in the western city of Braach.

"I appeal to the good people of Meerut and Delhi to stand up with courage to the mischief-mongers... Let good sense prevail... Keep the peace... Let your hearts be filled with love and not hatred," Mr. Gandhi said.

## Zhao, Kim discuss ties

PEKING (R) — North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung and China's Premier Zhao Ziyang agreed on a wide range of issues during talks in Peking Saturday, the New China News Agency said.

It said that, during three hours of "very cordial, friendly and sincere" talks, they discussed the situation on the Korean peninsula, international issues and "national construction" in each

other's countries.

"The two leaders shared unanimous views on wide-ranging issues," it said.

It quoted Mr. Zhao as saying he was pleased to see that the "Korean comrades have become more active in international affairs."

Mr. Zhao accepted an invitation from Mr. Kim to visit North Korea, the agency added.

## Ousted Fiji premier returns to power base

VISEISEI, Fiji (R) — Ousted Fiji Premier Timoci Bavadra Saturday discussed plans for a possible campaign of protest and a court challenge to the military coup which removed him from power nine days ago.

At a press conference in a small, thatched hut, he appeared to rule out his participation in a new interim administration, describing the offer from Governor-General Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau as insulting.

But aides said he had left the door open for further talks.

The 52-year-old ethnic Fijian doctor said his Indian-dominated coalition overthrown by the military only three weeks after winning elections in the strategic Pacific island group.

He said he did not feel like serving in the interim council after being forcibly ejected from office.

Bavadra was visiting the sugar-growing western half of Fiji's main island Saturday, returning to his main power base where

supporters were holding a series of village meetings.

Ganilau Friday named 19 members of an advisory council that will help run the country until new elections can be held and the constitution amended, possibly within six months.

The council is weighted towards the previously governing Alliance Party, which Sir Kamiseva Mara ruled Fiji since independence from Britain in 1970 until it was defeated last month.

## China forest fire threatens new region

PEKING (R) — China's worst forest fire in memory has turned its fury south and now threatens a town of 20,000 people in Inner Mongolia, the official media said Saturday.

The New China News Agency said the western sector of the fire was approaching the town of Mangui on the edge of huge virgin forests.

It said thousands of fire-fighters were hacking out a firebreak 120 kilometres long and 200 metres wide to stop the blaze from reaching Mangui, home to China's only reindeer farm and to a major reserve for rare wild animals.

The fire has killed more than 200 people, made 50,000 homeless and devastated 600,000 hectares (almost 1.5 million acres) in the north-east province of Heilongjiang.

Mangui is about 120 kilometres from the town of Uma on the

Ergun River, which forms part of China's border with the Soviet Union.

Forests near Uma are threatened by a fire that has been blazing for a month in the Soviet Union and has reached the Ergun, the People's Daily said Saturday.

It said that a strong wind could carry the fire across the Ergun, which is 150 metres wide at that point.

State radio said in its morning news bulletin that a special state council (cabinet) group which has taken charge of fire-fighting had called for all possible measures to stop the fire spreading to the forests of Inner Mongolia.

The group has ordered 19 forest farms in the region to create fire-breaks and said sufficient equipment must be made available to fight the blaze.

The group also called for fire-breaks to be widened in the east-

ern sector of the blaze where it appears to have been brought under control, and for fire-fighters there to remain vigilant.

The People's Daily said the regional government of Inner Mongolia had sent thousands of people to fight the fire.

The New China News Agency said the armed forces had so far sent almost 5,000 tonnes of supplies to its men fighting the fire, including more than 300 tonnes of food, 50,000 pairs of shoes and 500 tents.

As the huge fire raged in the north-east of China, the people of Peking were warned to prepare for serious flooding in July and August.

The official China New Service (CNS) said the flood danger arose because of the first recurrence in 24 years of sunspot activity combined with the climatic phenomenon known as El Nino.

## Demonstrators battle riot police in Seoul streets

SEOUL (R) — South Korean students and dissidents battled riot police in the streets of Seoul Saturday in the latest flare-up against President Chun Doo Hwan's government.

About 500 protesters, hurling stones and shouting slogans hostile to Mr. Chun, tried to break through a police cord around a park where they planned to hold a rally marking the anniversary of a 1980 civil uprising.

Similar street protests were reported elsewhere in the capital. A huge force of riot police replied with volleys of tear gas and charged into the fleeing demonstrators, arresting scores of them, witnesses said.

Police earlier put 10 dissidents under house arrest and deployed about 7,000 men around the park to foil attempts to reach the rally site.

Traffic snarled up in the city centre and hundreds of shops pulled down their shutters during the clash, which lasted about two hours.

In the past few days police across the country have battled tens of thousands of demonstrators marking the seventh anniversary of the uprising in the South-western city of Kwangju. Official counts say 193 died in the uprising.

Saturday's street violence came hours after Mr. Chun ordered a new investigation into the killing in January of a student activist during police interrogation.

"If any fact about this incident has been distorted or concealed, this can never be tolerated as it would greatly undermine public confidence in the police," a presidential spokesman quoted Mr. Chun as saying.

## Vranitzky: fear of U.S. meddling prompted defence of Waldheim

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of Austria's government has said that fears of American meddling prompted his country's defence of President Kurt Waldheim against U.S. findings that Dr. Waldheim took part in World War II persecutions.

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, answering questions at a National Press Club luncheon, said his people have failed to grasp the legal basis for a U.S. Justice Department ruling that effectively bars Dr. Waldheim from visiting the United States.

On Friday, Mr. Vranitzky met for an hour with Attorney General Edwin Meese III. Mr. Vranitzky had no immediate comment following the meeting at the U.S. Justice Department, but Mr. Meese called it a "very candid... discussion of the Waldheim situation" that resulted in "increased understanding."

On April 27, Meese directed that Waldheim be placed on an Immigration and Naturalisation Service "watch list" that bars foreigners from getting U.S. visas.

"There is nothing like that in Austria," Mr. Vranitzky said of the immigration procedure. "So the general public is not in a position to distinguish between a sentence and a watch list."

As a result, he suggested, many Austrians think the United States is merely trying to interfere in Austrian politics.

"A good deal of Austrians are now in a position in which they think... Do not let other countries determine who's going to be the president in Austria," Mr. Vranitzky said.

Mr. Meese said that in the meeting with Mr. Vranitzky, he stressed that the Waldheim decision "did not in any way reflect negatively on the U.S. relationship with the people of Austria or with their government."

## Witnesses say Barbie liked torturing

LYON, France (AP) — Former Lyon Gestapo chief Klaus Barbie took pleasure in torturing people more than 40 years ago, according to testimony from elderly witnesses at his trial.

Ennat Leger, now 92, told the court Friday that Barbie "had the eyes of a monster."

"He was savage," the woman said. "My God, he was savage. He was a monster."

She said Barbie, called the "Butcher of Lyon," sent her to the Ravensbrück Concentration Camp, where she was blinded.

Barbie, 73, did not hear the accusations because he refused to attend his trial on charges of torturing Jews and members of the French resistance and deporting them to Nazi camps during the German occupation of France in World War II.

He worked for the United States as an anti-Communist agent in Germany after the war fled to South America with American help in 1951, where he

lived under the name Klaus Altmann. Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld unmasked him in 1972, but Bolivia did not expel him to France until 1983.

Lise Lesevre, 86, was a liaison agent in the resistance. She put aside her cane Friday, refused a chair and told of her arrest March 13, 1944 and torture by Barbie.

"When he had nobody to hit, he hit his boots," she said. "Barbie took pleasure, a pleasure that was astounding, in torturing."

Mrs. Lesevre said she was handcuffed, hung by the wrists and put on a stretching table or in a bathtub.

Finally, she said, Barbie told her: "We are going to get your husband and your son. You will talk."

She did not talk. Her husband and son died at Auschwitz.

Irene Fremion was 21 when Gestapo officers caught her on March 9, 1944, and took her to Barbie's office.

"He called in a militiaman and told him to 'beat the little blonde,'" she said. "After a few days, I saw the head of my (resistance) network in Barbie's

office. He looked like an old man of 80, and he was only 34. Barbie was a torturer, bloodthirsty. He was a human beast."

Mrs. Fremion said dogs were set on prisoners at the infamous Fort Montluc Prison, where the Gestapo did much of its torturing. After several weeks of torture and beatings, she was sent to Ravensbrück.

Friday was the most emotional day so far in the trial, which ended its second week and is expected to continue through early July. Several of the seven witnesses sobbed while testifying.

Simon Lagrange told the court Friday that she was arrested with her father on June 6, 1944, the day the allies landed in Normandy, and taken to Barbie.

"He always came with his thin smile like a knife blade," she said. "Then he smashed my face. That lasted seven days."

Mrs. Lagrange later refused to answer questions from Jacques Vergès, Barbie's defence attorney.

"I was already interrogated 43 years ago," she said. "I do not want to answer today."

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### Princess Anne unhurt despite fall

TOWCESTER, England (AP) — Princess Anne, only daughter of Queen Elizabeth II, suffered her first horseracing fall when she was unseated in a hurdle race at this central English racecourse. She was not injured. The princess, a former Olympic equestrian, was riding her own horse, Cnoc Na Cuille, in the leading artist handicap chase and fell at the last fence. At the time, her 13-2 shot was in second place and looked like winning the race until he hit the fence. Princess Anne was thrown over his shoulder and hung upside down for about three strides before she had to let go. She was quickly on her feet and told the course doctor she was unhurt. The princess has had six races over hurdles and still is looking for her first success.

### State pays for prisoner to change sex

ROME (AP) — A 27-year-old inmate who felt he was "a prisoner in a male body," has been allowed to have a sex change operation at a state expense, an Italian newspaper reported Saturday. After a two-hour operation at a Rome hospital Friday, Giuseppe Giorgianni became Katia, according to the Rome daily Il Messaggero. "Katia certainly won't be able to have children," said Dr. Piero Palmisano, who performed the sex-change operation. "But in every other way, she will have the life of a woman that she has always dreamed of." Giorgianni says he requested the sex-change operation in 1982, as soon as an Italian law was enacted allowing the procedure in certain cases. But two years ago, he was sentenced to three years in prison for theft. After a series of protests and hunger strikes, Giorgianni convinced prison authorities that the sex change operation was necessary for reasons of mental health. "I was desperate," Giorgianni told Il Messaggero from a hospital bed. The state-run prison, Rebibbia, agreed to pay for the operation, the cost of which was not disclosed. Il Messaggero added. After prison, Giorgianni plans to return to Paris, to live with a longtime boyfriend. "Now I'll see him again and everything will be different," Giorgianni said.

### Black death graves uncovered

LONDON (AP) — An archaeological dig near the Tower of London has uncovered dozens of graves of people who died during the black death of 1349, when a bubonic plague wiped out nearly half the city's population. The £1 million (\$1.6 million) excavation on the former site of the Royal Mint several hundred metres from the Thames River is expected to yield more than 1,000 corpses. Several orderly rows of graves, alongside a hastily filled gravel pit, already have been found. The skeletons are being analysed to determine sex, age and height, as well as any traces of disease. They will be reburied at a graveyard in East London. The black death decimated the population of Europe in the mid-14th century, reaching London in 1349. Historians believe about 50,000 Londoners died.

### Battle against alcoholism weakening

MOSCOW (R) — The fight against drunkenness launched by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was weakening and home brewing was on the increase in the face of higher drink prices and shorter opening hours, the politburo has said. A regular meeting of the Communist Party's 11-man "inner cabinet" called for an intensification of the anti-vodka drive, state television reported. Newspapers indicated that shops failing to make up for lost vodka revenue by selling more consumer goods were starting to break regulations governing sales of alcohol. The latest edition of the Byelorussian Republic's party daily to reach Moscow said drunks were reappearing on the streets of Minsk and crime was rising because shops were selling alcohol outside licensing hours.

### Escaped convict arrested in monastery

CATANIA, Sicily (AP) — Police on Friday arrested a Carmelite monk who allegedly eluded a life sentence for murder by escaping from a prison during the confusion of a World War II bombing. The Italian News Agency AGI, in a dispatch from the eastern Sicilian port city of Catania, said Antonino D'Aquino, 83, was originally sentenced to death in the 1930s for involvement in a slaying during a robbery. The sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment. In 1942, during one of the heavy bombings of Sicily during the war, a bomb hit the prison housing D'Aquino and he had several other inmates escaped in the confusion, AGI said. D'Aquino's sister tipped off police of her brother's whereabouts in the monastery of Carmine in Catania, AGI said. The agency said the woman was worried about the bad publicity for the Carmelites and possible prosecution. D'Aquino has been known as Brother Lorenzo since he joined the order shortly after his escape, AGI said. The agency said D'Aquino will probably not be made to serve the rest of his term because of his age.

### Mrs. Sadat criticised for living in U.S.

CAIRO (AP) — A leading editor Saturday strongly criticised former first lady Jihan Sadat for living and teaching in the United States and urged her to return home. An article by Ibrahim Seda, editor of the state-owned mass-circulation weekly newspaper Akhbar Al Yom, also charged that Mrs. Sadat had embarrassed the Egyptian government by making political statements in foreign newspaper interviews. Mrs. Sadat, 53, has been a frequent target of attack in Egyptian opposition party newspapers. But this was the first time a state-owned publication took a swipe at her. Editor Seda is a government appointee and there was no indication whether the article was inspired or reflected his personal view. "Very frankly, I declare my rejection of what Mrs. Jihan has been doing from the time President Anwar Sadat died until today," Seda said, referring to Mr. Sadat's assassination by Muslim extremists in Cairo on Oct. 6, 1981. Seda said his rejection covered Mrs. Sadat's "residence" in the United States, her acceptance of teaching jobs at American universities, occasional news conferences she held and "foreign newspaper interviews in which she dealt with political matters, thereby embarrassing to her country over domestic and foreign policies."

### Mr. T's tree massacre draws fire

LAKE FOREST, Illinois (R) — Celebrity tough guy Mr. T's exploits with a chainsaw have his neighbours in a wealthy Chicago suburb up in arms. The burly former bodyguard, whose Mohawk hair style and trademark scowl helped make him a star in the film Rocky III and the television show the A-Team, mowed down the 100 or so trees on his estate and townspeople called it a massacre. A local newspaper, the Lake Forest News/Voice, in an editorial attacked the 36-year-old actor, whose real name is Lawrence Tureaud, for "the Massacre of Mr. T's Trees" and called it "an arrogant, insensitive action."

### Convicted killer executed

JACKSON, Georgia (AP) — Richard Tucker, who kidnapped, raped and murdered a nurse while on parole in another killing, was executed, the second inmate put to death in the southern U.S. state of Georgia in a week. Tucker, 44, was electrocuted hours after the U.S. supreme court and the Georgia state board of pardons and paroles refused to stay the execution. He died at 7:23 p.m. (2323 GMT), said John Siler, a spokesman with the department of corrections. Tucker was convicted in the 1978 murder of Edna Sandefur, 50, who was visiting her gravely ill mother in Macon, Georgia. She was kidnapped by Tucker as she left the hospital and was forced to drive to an isolated spot and have sex with him. He then beat her to death with a iron pipe. Six months earlier, Tucker had been released from prison where he had served 14 years for stabbing an aunt to death with a pair of scissors.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### F IS FOR FINESSE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ K 5  
♥ A J 3  
♦ A Q 8 2  
♣ K J 5 2

WEST EAST  
♠ 10 9 8 4 3 ♠ J 7 6 2  
♥ 10 7 6 5 ♥ 9 8 4  
♦ 5 4 3 ♦ K 7  
♣ Q ♣ 10 9 7 6

SOUTH  
♠ A Q  
♥ K Q 8  
♦ J 10 9 8  
♣ A 9 4 3

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 6 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

The finesse is one of the simplest plays in bridge to master. But it takes years of experience to learn when not to finesse, or which of several finesses to take. There was little to the bidding. After his partner opened one no trump, North added his 18 high-card points to his partner's announced minimum of 16 or maximum of 18, and saw that he had the values for a small slam but was a touch short of a grand slam. He wasted no time in getting to where

he wanted to play.

West led the top of his spade sequence, and when dummy came down declarer could count eight fast tricks. To make his slam, he would have to develop tricks in both clubs and diamonds. Which suit should he tackle first, or does it matter?

To give himself the maximum chance, declarer should first take the diamond finesse. If he can get four tricks from that suit, he needs only three in clubs to get home; and he can guarantee that many by taking the safety play of cashing the king and then leading toward the ace-9. Unfortunately, the jack of diamond loses to East's king and a spade is returned. Declarer now needs four club tricks. What's his best chance?

It doesn't help first to cash the ace, in the hope of dropping a singleton queen offside, for in that case West would still have a club trick. The correct play is to lead low from the South hand with the intention of finessing if West plays low. That gains when the cards are as shown above. Declarer captures the queen with the king, cashes the jack and then takes the marked finesse for the 10 to land 12 tricks.